

No. \_\_\_\_\_







SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1928



BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1929













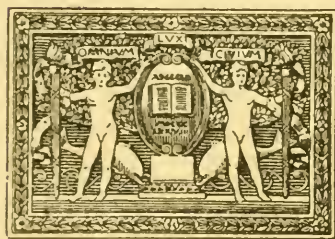


JOSIAH HENRY BENTON, LL.D.

From a portrait in oils by Jacob Binder in the possession of the  
Boston Public Library.

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THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

7.31.29: 250Q

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ON JANUARY 1, 1929.

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LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, *President*.  
Term expires April 30, 1929.

FRANK W. BUXTON.  
Term expires April 30, 1930.

ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY.  
Term expires April 30, 1932.

GORDON ABBOTT.  
Term expires April 30, 1931.

GUY W. CURRIER.  
Term expires April 30, 1933.

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CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.  
DIRECTOR.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114 of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, GORDON, A.B., 1926 –  
ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879–95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852–56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894–1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852–68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865–67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894–1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902–12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869–72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912–16.  
BUXTON, FRANCIS WILLIAM, A.B., 1928–  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895–96, 1908–22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876–85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879–88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917–19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916–  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922–  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873–75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895–1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899–1908.  
DWINNELL, CLIFTON HOWARD, B.S., 1927–28.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852–64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875–79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923–27.  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868–78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856–88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880–94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872–75; 76–77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908–1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919–  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868–79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897–1907.



MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-1923.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921-26.  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888-99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889-95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852-68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1868-70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885-88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923 to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, June 13, 1924 to June 19, 1925; HON. MICHAEL J. MURRAY, June 19, 1925 to July 2, 1926; GUY W. CURRIER, July 2, 1926 to May 2, 1927; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, May 2, 1927 to June 22, 1928; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN since June 22, 1928.

## LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923, Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 - December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 - January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Supcrintendent*, February 25, 1868 - September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 - September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 - September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 - April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 - April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 - December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 - January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LITT.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 - March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 - June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., A.M., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

# LIBRARY SYSTEM, JANUARY 1, 1929.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenæum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, 43 Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, 65 West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, 4210 Washington St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, 1961 Centre St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, 202 Washington St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, 131 Cambridge St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Upham's Corner Branch, 500 Columbia Rd. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
‡Memorial Branch, cor. Warren and Townsend Sts. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921
*Baker Library, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.	Jan. 15, 1927

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenæum, a private library association. \* Under agreement with Harvard.

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Portrait of Josiah Henry Benton . . . . .	Frontispiece
Map of the Library System . . . . .	At the end



TO HIS HONOR MALCOLM E. NICHOLS,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending December 31, 1928, being the seventy-seventh annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Mr. Clifton H. Dwinnell died on March 13 and on August 18, Mr. Frank W. Buxton was appointed in his place for the term ending April 30, 1930. At the annual meeting on June 22, Mr. Louis E. Kirstein was elected President, Mr. Gordon Abbott, Vice President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

#### NEEDS OF THE LIBRARY.

It is a gratification to report the steady progress of the work undertaken in renewing and improving the equipment of the Central Library and of the important repairs to the building, which the passage of time has rendered necessary. The re-wiring of the building and the installation of a modern switchboard, with the improved lighting fixtures in many parts of the Library, have added much to the convenience of readers and the efficiency of the staff. The reconstruction of the old Manuscript Room, providing a modern projection room for slides and moving pictures, and the re-arrangement of the Lecture Hall with new seats and greatly improved stage quipment, have contributed greatly to the comfort and pleasure of the large audiences who attend the lectures and concerts given in the Library. The important work on the roof of the building has gone steadily forward, and the arduous task of clearing the North Gallery in preparation for its reconstruction, has been successfully carried out with no inter-

ruption to library service. Thanks to the generous special appropriation granted for the purpose, the work of making the Special Libraries a fit and secure home for the treasures of the institution will make great progress during the coming year.

But much remains to be done before the condition of the Central Library will be such as to enable the Trustees to focus their attention upon other matters. The completion of work on the roof, the installation of additional precautions against fire, the further improvement of the illumination of the Library, all require immediate attention. The granite platform in front of the building shows signs of weakness, and there should be no delay in providing for its thorough inspection with the possibility that this platform with the walls and vaults supporting it may require complete reconstruction.

The year has seen an important extension of the facilities of two of the branch libraries, those at Boylston Station and City Point; in each case increased circulation and greatly improved service have been the result. A number of other branch libraries are now seriously cramped by the lack of space or of proper facilities for carrying on their work. The districts served by the Allston, Mt. Bowdoin, Orient Heights, and Parker Hill branches are now suffering by reason of the total inadequacy of the branch quarters, and the Trustees regard the improvement of conditions at these branches as a primary need of the library system. Larger and better quarters are demanded at various other points where the public is ready to respond to the stimulus furnished by improved facilities; at these four branches, however, the work of the Library is being definitely hampered and retarded by the character of the quarters in which it is at present carried on. It is the intention of the Trustees to present at an early date a statement of the more pressing physical needs of the branch libraries in the order of their relative importance.

Various sections of the city which are now without convenient library facilities have a fair claim to the establishment of new branches for their use. On the basis of a survey of the city recently completed under the supervision of the Director, it will be possible to submit an extension program whenever the opportunity is presented. It is, however, the conviction of the Board of



Trustees that the proper support of the work now established should take precedence of any further spread of the library system into parts of the city which, while they have a proper claim to more convenient service, can still obtain books as at present by going a little out of the way.

With the increasing recognition of the importance of the library profession and the rapidly growing competition among libraries for properly trained and equipped workers, it becomes more and more difficult to fill vacancies in the library staff at the salaries now paid. If the Boston Public Library is to maintain its standing and to carry on to higher levels the quality of its service, the salary scale must be advanced to keep pace with that current in other American libraries of the first rank.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation	\$1,138,004.00
Special appropriation Library Bldg., Fireproofing, etc.)	114,215.73
Income from Trust Funds	27,469.92
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous years	61,465.58
	<hr/>
	\$1,341,155.23

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes during the past year have been as follows: .

From fines	\$19,461.61
Sales of waste paper	681.40
From sales of catalogues, etc.	112.99
From commission on telephone stations	618.76
From payments for lost books	1,348.35
Interest on bank deposits	60.14
Refund	5.16
	<hr/>
Total	\$22,288.41

## ESTIMATES FOR 1929.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1929 in segregated budget form are as follows:

A — Personal service	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$797,115.00
B — Service other than personal	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	160,735.00
C — Equipment	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	171,975.00
D — Supplies	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40,780.00
E — Materials	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	35,500.00
F — Special items	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	864.00
G — Miscellaneous	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40,000.00
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	<u>\$1,246,969.00</u>

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year there were added to the Central Library and its branches 96,163 volumes as against 98,487 in 1927. Of these 77,433 were acquired by purchase and 18,730 by gift, exchange, etc. The total expenditure for books, periodicals, newspapers and other library material from city appropriation and trust funds income, was \$154,436.42. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,442,802.

## CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,899,286 as against 3,705,657 for 1927, a gain of 193,629 volumes.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report the following gifts and bequests other than books and related material, during 1928:

A bequest of \$5000 under the will of Alfred Hemenway, funded as the "Alfred Hemenway Fund"; a bequest of \$2000 under the will of Gardner O. North, funded as the "Gardner O. North Fund"; a gift of \$1000 from Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund" established in 1925, being the fourth contribution to the fund.

Two portraits, in oil, of Martin Bates, a city councillor in 1822-23, and his wife Sarah Sweetzer Bates, bequeathed to the

City of Boston by Miss Ellen S. Bates; a reproduction in bronze of the Declaration of Independence, given by Governor Fuller; and in December, the offer of Mr. Louis E. Kirstein to erect and furnish a library building in the business section of the city to be used as a business branch and known as the "Edward Kirstein Memorial Library" in memory of his father. In accepting Mr. Kirstein's offer, the Trustees at their meeting on December 21 took the following action:

"WHEREAS Louis E. Kirstein, a trustee of the Boston Public Library, has agreed in writing with the City of Boston to erect a three and one-half story building which shall be satisfactory to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, fully equipped for library purposes except for books, on the site of the abandoned Police Station 2 on City Hall Avenue, and to make a gift of the said building free and clear of all incumbrances after its erection to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, as a body corporate, as defined in chapter one hundred and fourteen of the acts of eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, for the purpose of maintaining therein a branch library; and

"WHEREAS the said Louis E. Kirstein is desirous that such a building be maintained by the said Trustees as a branch library of the Boston Public Library as a memorial to his father, Edward Kirstein, who had a sincere affection for the City of Boston;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED that the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, as a body corporate, or in any other capacity, do hereby agree to accept such gift as described hereinbefore and do hereby agree that when and if such a building is deeded to the Trustees as aforesaid that they will accept and maintain the same as a branch library of the Boston Public Library and will name said building, when completed and deeded, the 'Edward Kirstein Memorial Library' in memory of Edward Kirstein, father of Louis E. Kirstein, the donor."

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received during the year. A detailed statement of these may be found in the Director's report.

In December, a satisfactory portrait of the late Josiah H. Benton, painted by Jacob Binder, was hung in the Trustees' room at the Central Library.

## TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution, but for which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

Artz Fund — Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00*

Bates Fund — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$50,000.00*

Bigelow Fund — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00*

Robert Charles Billings Fund — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billings Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$100,000.00*

Bowditch Fund — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00*

Bradlee Fund — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$1,000.00

Joseph H. Center Fund — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other additions to the library. Received in 1905.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . . . \$1,600.00

City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds . . . . . 32,300.00

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . 6,000.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . . 8.89

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\$39,908.89

Children's Fund — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those purposes only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city. In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$15,000.00

City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . 42,000.00

City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . 20,000.00

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . 20,000.00

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond . . . . . 6,000.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928 . . . . . 117.74

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\$103,117.74

Clement Fund — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . . . \$2,000.00

Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening. It is the desire of the subscribers that a special



book plate shall be inserted in each of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$2,800.00  
 Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . . 54.41

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\$2,854.41

Cutter Fund — Bequest of ABRAM E. CUTTER of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

*Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond* . . . \$4,000.00  
 City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . 100.00  
 Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . . 70.00

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\$4170.00

Elizabeth Fund — Bequest of SARAH A. MATCHETT, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Elizabeth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$25,000.00

Daniel Sharp Ford Fund — A bequest of DANIEL SHARP FORD to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

*Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond* . . . \$6,000.00

Franklin Club Fund — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow them on the Public Library, attaching thereto only the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$1,000.00

Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund — Bequest of ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown



Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$5,000.00

Morris Gest Fund — Donation made by MR. MORRIS GEST in December 1925, the gross receipts from a benefit performance for the Library of "The Miracle", — \$2,652.50, the income to be used in the interest of dramatic art.

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank* . . . \$2,652.50

Green Fund — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884. .

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . 1,500.00

City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . 500.00

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\$2,000.00

Charlotte Harris Fund — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter*

per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00

Thomas B. Harris Fund — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$1,000.00

Alfred Hemenway Fund. — Bequest of Alfred Hemenway. Received in 1928.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds.* . . \$5,000.00

Hyde Fund — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$3,600.00

Cash, December 31, 1928 . . . 32.40

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\$3,632.40

David P. Kimball Fund — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books, \$10,000." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$9,000.00

City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . 1,000

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\$10,000.00

Louis E. Kirstein Fund — Donation of \$1,000 made by Mr. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN in October 1925, "to be used for any purpose of the Library that the Trustees see fit to put it to."

October, 1925. . . . .	\$1,000.00
October, 1926. . . . .	1,000.00
November, 1927. . . . .	1,000.00
October, 1928. . . . .	<u>1,000.00</u>

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank . . . . .* \$4,000.00

Arthur Mason Knapp Fund — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP: "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

Abbott Lawrence Fund — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

Edward Lawrence Fund — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:

"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$500.00

Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$5,000.00

Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$500.00

Charles Mead Fund — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$2,500.00

Gardner O. North Fund — Bequest of Gardner O. North. Received in 1928. \$2,000.00

The Oakland Hall Trust Fund — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44 was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$11,780.00  
Cash, December 31, 1927. . . . . 1.44

\$11,781.44

John Boyle O'Reilly Fund — Donation received from the PAPHYRUS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$1,000.00

Phillips Fund — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$10,000.00

Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$20,000.00

Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

Pierce Fund — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the City, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$5,000.00

Sarah E. Pratt Fund — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston, under the 14th clause of her will, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00. Received in January, 1922.

Distribution of residue of estate in May, 1924, \$964.30.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	1,400.00
City of Boston Three and three-quarters per cent Bond	90.00
Cash in City Treasury, December, 1928.	<u>4.18</u>

\$1,494.18

Guilford Reed Fund — Bequest of Helen Leah Reed, as a memorial to Guilford S. Reed; the income to be applied to the purchase of books of non-fiction.

<i>Deposited in Dorchester Savings Bank</i>	\$1,000.00
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John Singer Sargent Fund — Balance remaining in hands of surviving trustees of fund originally raised to install in the Library decorations by John Singer Sargent; the income to be used for the care and preservation of the Sargent decorations, etc.

<i>Deposited in Dorchester Savings Bank</i>	\$3,858.24
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Scholfield Fund — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November 18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33 accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added to the fund given by his brother.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$41,800.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond	12,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds	6,000.00
City of Boston Three and three-quarters per cent Bonds	<u>2,000.00</u>

\$61,800.00

Sewall Fund — Extract from the will of RICHARD BLACK SEWALL:

"*Tenth.* — I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of legacy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to

their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books." Received in 1918.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . .* \$25,000.00

Skinner Fund — Extract from the will of FRANCIS SKINNER:

"*Eleventh.* — All my books and library I give and bequeath to my son, to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries, as he shall judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

"*Sixteenth.* — All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$40,000.00  
*City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* 10,250.00  
*City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* 200.00  
*16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company . . . . .* 1,280.00  
*Cash, December 31, 1928. . . . .* 2.14  
\$51,732.14

South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . .* \$100.00

Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be



applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$3,500.00
James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund — Gift of Helen Storrow and Elizabeth Randolph Storrow as a memorial to James Jackson Storrow, Senior; income to be used for the purchase of Italian books.	
<i>Deposited in Boston Five Cent Savings Bank</i>	\$10,000.00
“ “ <i>Dorchester Savings Bank</i>	5,000.00
“ “ <i>Suffolk Savings Bank</i>	10,000.00
	<u>\$25,000.00</u>

Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest — Extract from will: “I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thousand dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass.” Received in 1908.

This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.

Ticknor Bequest — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (*i.e.*, the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College. In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the



care and custody of the books and manuscripts. Received in 1871.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$4,000.00

William C. Todd Newspaper Fund — Donation by WILLIAM C. TODD, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897, the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be expended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$25,000.00

City of Boston Three and three-quarters per

cent Bond . . . . . \$25,000.00

\$50,000.00

Townsend Fund — Donation from William Minot and William Minot, Jr., executors of the will of MARY P. TOWNSEND, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$4,000.00

Treadwell Fund — By the will of the late DANIEL TREADWELL, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . . 3,100.00

City of Boston Four per cent Bonds. . . . . 9,850.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . . 37.69

\$13,987.69

Tufts Fund — Bequest of NATHAN A. TUFTS, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half</i>	
per cent Bond . . . . .	\$ 100.00
<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per</i>	
cent Bonds . . . . .	10,000.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . .	31.77
	<hr/>
	\$10,131.77

Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund — Donation on account of the TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond . . . . .	\$5,000.00

Wales Fund — Extract from the will of GEORGE C. WALES:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income, and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond . . . . .	\$5,000.00

Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund — Bequest of MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1913.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .</i>	\$1,000.00
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Whitney Funds — Bequests of JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY, who died September 25, 1910.

Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most

worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter*

per cent Bond . . . . .	1,000.00
<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds.</i> . . . .	<u>4,000.00</u>
	\$5,000.00

James Lyman Whitney Fund — The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees, after the accumulation of said fund of five thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund, and invested and re-invested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per*

cent Bonds . . . . .	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . .	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .	11,300.00
City of Boston Three and three-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . .	800.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1928. . . . .	<u>9.64</u>

\$15,309.64

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

Central Library Building Fund — Donations in response to an appeal by the Trustees in April, 1925, setting forth the needs of the Library, from

Percy Lee Atherton . . . . .	\$ 25.00
William York Peters . . . . .	25.00
John T. Spaulding . . . . .	<u>100.00</u>

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$150.00

Donations — Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch . . . . .	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston. . . . .	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard . . . . .	1,000.00

*Carried forward* \$8,800.00

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$8,800.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge . . . . .	500.00
Andrew Carnegie . . . . .	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch . . . . .	200.00
James Nightingale . . . . .	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library . .	335.13
	<hr/>
	\$10,915.88

## RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund . . . . .	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund . . . . .	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund . . . . .	39,908.89
Central Library Building Fund . . . . .	150.00
Children's Fund . . . . .	103,117.74
Clement Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund . . . . .	2,854.41
Cutter Fund . . . . .	4,170.00
Elizabeth Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund . . . . .	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Morris Gest Fund . . . . .	2,652.50
Green Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Alfred Hemenway Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Hyde Fund . . . . .	3,632.40
David P. Kimball Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Louis E. Kirstein Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund . . . . .	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund . . . . .	500.00
Charles Mead Fund . . . . .	2,500.00
Gardner O. North Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund . . . . .	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Phillips Fund . . . . .	30,000.00
Pierce Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund . . . . .	1494.18
Guilford Reed Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
John Singer Sargent Fund . . . . .	3,858.24
Scholfield Fund . . . . .	61,800.00
Sewall Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Skinner Fund . . . . .	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund . . . . .	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund . . . . .	3,500.00
James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Ticknor Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Townsend Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund . . . . .	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund . . . . .	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Wales Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund . . . . .	15,309.64
Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund . . . . .	1,000.00

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 \$764,681.04



## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. Their recommendations have received careful attention. The membership of the Committee consisted of the following persons:

Miss Anna M. Bancroft.	Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.
Mr. Sidney C. Conrad.	Mr. Melville D. Liming.
Mr. Henry V. Cunningham.	Mr. Percival Merritt.
Hon. James M. Curley.	Miss Jane L. Mesick.
Mr. Frederic H. Curtiss.	Mr. George R. Nutter.
Mr. William J. Davidson.	Mr. Winfield S. Quinby.
Prof. Arthur S. Dewing.	Mr. Roger L. Scaife.
Mrs. David A. Ellis.	Mr. Samuel Silverman.
Mr. Albert W. Finlay.	Mrs. Francis E. Slattery.
Miss Susan J. Ginn.	Mr. William B. Snow.
Mr. Francis L. Higginson.	Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
Mr. David H. Howie.	Prof. H. W. Tyler.
Mrs. Barrett Wendell.	

## CONCLUSION.

The members of the Board wish to emphasize the recommendations contained in the appended report of the Examining Committee. The Committee has submitted a detailed statement of its findings, and with many of its recommendations the Board is heartily in accord. It has long been conscious of many of the needs mentioned and is ready to proceed at once along the lines suggested, as soon as the necessary appropriations are made available. The report of the Director, which follows, is an interesting and encouraging account of the progress of the work of the institution. We wish to stress the need of more money for the purchase of books; we hope both for larger City appropriations for this purpose and for gifts from individuals for the establishment of book funds. A public-spirited citizen can leave no better memorial than a fund which shall supply a steady stream of valuable new books for the use of the public; such a fund is a spring of intellectual nourishment contributing richly to the life of the community. Provided with a proper book-plate, each book is a worthy reminder during untold years to come of



the man or woman whose generosity has brought it into the hands of the reader who needs it.

The reports which follow show how successfully the Central Library and its branches have been carried on during the year under the able guidance of the Director. We desire to commend not only his fidelity but that of all the members of the staff to the interests of the Library and the City.

LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN  
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY  
FRANK W. BUXTON  
GORDON ABBOTT  
GUY W. CURRIER

# BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

### To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and

Binding employees) . . . . .

\$568,520.76

Temporary employees . . . . .

106,161.11

\$674,681.87

### Service other than personal

Contract work (outside) . . . . .

191.55

Advertising . . . . .

83.00

Transportation of persons . . . . .

678.56

Cartage and freight . . . . .

12,339.13

Light and power . . . . .

16,071.62

Rent, taxes and water . . . . .

18,228.32

Surety bond and insurance . . . . .

18.50

Communication . . . . .

2,464.60

Cleaning, towels, etc. . . . .

1,236.86

Removal of snow and ashes . . . . .

198.15

Expert . . . . .

8,814.39

Fees . . . . .

89.00

Photographic and blueprinting . . . . .

1,000.00

General plant repairs . . . . .

81,679.51

143,093.19

### To expenditure for equipment

Machinery . . . . .

1,407.48

Motorless vehicles . . . . .

322.50

Furniture and fittings . . . . .

8,569.17

Plus overcharge deducted

from Printing . . . . .

44.00

8,613.17

Education and recreational . . . . .

368.00

Office . . . . .

1,052.59

### Books:

City appropriation . . . . .

114,089.51

Trust funds income

(including transfer to

(London account) . . . . .

33,333.91

147,423.42

### Newspapers:

City appropriation . . . . .

1,237.12

Trust funds income . . . . .

2,205.24

3,442.36

Periodicals (city) . . . . .

10,962.76

### Photographs:

City appropriation . . . . .

6.25

Trust funds income . . . . .

201.15

207.40

Lantern slides (funds) . . . . .

942.82

### Music:

City appropriation . . . . .

7.39

Trust funds income . . . . .

1,415.52

1,422.91

Tools and instruments . . . . .

1,781.48

General plant equipment . . . . .

1,575.53

179,522.42

Carried forward . . . . .

\$997,297.48

# EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1928

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By CITY APPROPRIATION 1928 . . . . .	\$1,138,004.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	27,469.92	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	224.60	
Transfer from Domestic Funds to London account . . . . .	10,000.00	
Library Building, Fireproofing, Improvements, etc.		
Loan issued 1928 . . . . .	\$100,000.00	
Transferred from 1927 . . . . .		
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .	11,799.39	
Library Building Addition . . . . .	2,416.34	
		<u>114,215.73</u>
		<u>\$1,290,614.25</u>

Carried forward . . . . . \$1,290,614.25

DR.

Brought forward							\$997,297.48
To expenditures for supplies							
Office						8,525.42	
Food and ice						510.42	
Fuel						22,110.44	
Forage for animals						29.40	
Medical						23.13	
Laundry, cleaning, toilet						2,076.36	
Agricultural						507.72	
Chemicals and disinfectants						184.50	
General plant supplies						2,472.95	
To expenditures for material							36,440.34
Building						9,304.46	
Electrical						3,835.23	
General plant material						4,166.09	
To Special items							17,305.78
Pension						863.50	
A. L. Whitney Fund (Employees' sick benefit)						34.75	
To BINDING DEPARTMENT:							898.25
Salaries						55,755.93	
Stock						6,255.41	
Equipment						362.22	
Light						55.09	
Repairs						173.17	
Supplies						21.43	
Outside work						.90	
To PRINTING DEPARTMENT:							62,624.15
Salaries						14,553.07	
Stock						2,607.60	
Equipment		\$4,216.06					
Less credit		44.00				4,172.06	
Light						36.72	
Repairs						17.44	
Supplies						21.04	
Freight, travelling expenses, telegrams						31.36	
Insurance						89.61	
Outside work						158.02	
To SPECIAL APPROPRIATION:							21,686.92
Central Library Building Fireproofing, improvements, etc.							15,553.97
To AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:							
Fines						19,461.61	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists						112.99	
Commission on telephone stations						618.76	
Payments for lost books						1,348.35	
Interest on bank deposit						60.14	
Refund						5.16	
Sales of waste paper						681.40	
							22,288.41
Carried forward							\$1,174,095.30

## EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1928

CR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$1,290,614.25
BY BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1927:		
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . .	60,332.04	
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . .	1,133.54	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . .	4,410.43	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . .	7,138.33	
	<hr/>	73,014.34

<i>Carried forward</i> . . . . .	<hr/>	\$1,363,628.59
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# BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND DR.

<i>Brought forward</i>			\$1,174,095.30
To BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1928:			
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . .	\$	5,064.76	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . .		3,107.38	
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . .		55,737.35	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . .		7,838.33	
Interest on deposit in London . . . .		224.60	
			<hr/>
			71,972.42
To BALANCE UNEXPENDED:			
General appropriation . . . .		41,187.52	
Central Library Building, Fireproofing, Improvements, etc. . . .		98,661.76	
			<hr/>
			139,849.28

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\$1,385,917.00



## EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1928

CR.

Brought forward	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$1,363,628.59
BY RECEIPTS:							
From Fines	.	.	.	.	.	\$	19,461.61
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	.	.	.	.	.		112.99
Commission on telephone stations	.	.	.	.	.		618.76
Payments for lost books	.	.	.	.	.		1,348.35
Interest on bank deposit	.	.	.	.	.		60.14
Refund	.	.	.	.	.		5.16
Sales of waste paper	.	.	.	.	.		681.40

\$1,385.917.00

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year 1928.

The twenty-five members of the Committee appointed for the year 1928 were divided into six sub-committees, each charged with the duty of reporting upon a separate aspect of the Library and its work, while the branches were allotted to a committee of the whole, each branch being assigned for consideration to designated members of the committee. The Examining Committee has accepted the reports of its sub-committees substantially as made and commends their recommendations to the Trustees.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Committee is glad to report that the work recommended by last year's Committee has in the main been completed, and that for the most part the repairs and alterations needed for the coming year have been approved by the city authorities.

The Committee is impressed by the low level of the salaries paid by the Library, as a result of which it is very difficult for the Director to get satisfactory individuals to fill important vacancies. Unless salaries are so increased as to make it possible to secure competent assistants, the service of the Library is bound to deteriorate.

The sum available for the purchase of books is quite inadequate to meet the steadily increasing demands made on the Library, both at the Central building and at the branches. The Committee is informed that on account of the insufficient supply of books in current demand, four out of five applications for these books have to be refused.

It is gratifying to report that the Budget Commissioner of the City of Boston has approved an addition of \$15,000 to the Library appropriation for the purchase of books for the new business branch on City Hall Avenue.

#### BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

*Central Library.* Practically all the facilities of the Central Library building are now being taxed to their full capacity. The appreciation and use of the Library by all the citizens of Boston lays upon the city a special responsibility for the proper maintenance of this beautiful structure which is a source of such pride to Boston.

During the year 1928, the following major works of renovation were completed.

1. A new electrical wiring system was installed, with a switchboard of modern type.

2. The stacks were provided with greatly improved lighting equipment.

3. Portions of the condensation roof were renewed.

4. The ridge cresting of the roof was replaced.

5. The old Manuscript Room adjacent to the Lecture Hall was remodeled, providing a modern projection room for slides and moving pictures and a new work room for the Children's Department.

Such fine progress has been made in the repair and renovation of the building that the Committee is encouraged to recommend the following improvements and replacements as a means of keeping the building in good condition and increasing the usefulness of the institution. The Committee recommends that these be carried out as soon as possible.

1. New floors should be laid in the Newspaper Room, Periodical Room, elevator lobby, south corridor to Court, Blagden Street lobby, Bates Hall and the Exhibition Room. In all these rooms the floors are quite badly out of repair.

2. The service stairs on the Blagden Street side of the building are in dangerous condition from excessive wear and should be replaced or repaired at once.

3. The illumination of the main stairway and the stairs to Sargent Hall is inadequate and we earnestly recommend the in-

stallation of new lighting fixtures befitting the dignity of the staircase hall and in harmony with its decorations. The staircase to Sargent Hall should be lighted both from the arch which spans the lower flight and from the doorway to the balcony overlooking Bates Hall. At present this stairway is both gloomy and unsafe.

4. The Tube Room of the Issue Department should be renovated so as to bring it into harmony with the adjoining Delivery Room. In spite of the service equipment which it contains, it is, we believe, possible to make it much more attractive.

5. The Court which adds so much to the beauty of the building should receive greater care. The fountain basin should be kept in better repair, and trees or other decorations should be installed in the arcade in order to make this Court more comparable to similar courts in European buildings.

6. The wooden cabinets and lockers in the dressing rooms should be replaced with metal equipment as a precaution against fire.

7. The renovation of the roof begun in 1928 should be continued until the entire roof is in first-class condition.

8. The granite platform in front of the building must be renovated, if not completely rebuilt, at once. We understand that this work cannot be done until the supporting walls and vaulting below have been thoroughly inspected. Attention should be given to this matter without further delay, as the condition of the platform may be dangerous.

*Branches.* We are glad to note that the branch quarters throughout the city are in process of steady improvement. The plumbing of the Brighton Branch has been renovated and the roof has been repaired. At the North End Branch exterior stone work has been repointed and exterior wood work painted; the roof has also been renovated. The roofs of the West End and Hyde Park branches have been repaired and the electric wiring system at the West End has been renovated. Illuminated signs have been installed at thirteen of the branch libraries and much work has been done on the grounds surrounding the library buildings.

The protest of last year's Committee against the housing of branch libraries in stores and other business buildings is repeated. We feel that so far as possible branch libraries should have buildings devoted exclusively to library purposes. If this is not possible, they should at least have quarters with independent entrances in school houses or other public buildings.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$40,000 for repairs at branch libraries in the current year. Only \$10,000, a very inadequate sum, has thus far been allowed. The matter should again be brought to the attention of the Budget Commissioner and an effort made for an increased appropriation for this very necessary work.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Excellent progress is being made in the work of the Division of Fine Arts in the classification and cataloguing of pictures exemplifying the various schools of painting.

The Committee urges greater attention to the bindings of books in the Barton-Ticknor and Brown Music Libraries. In many instances valuable bindings are cracking and otherwise show the need of more care in handling and preservation. We recommend the appointment of a special committee to investigate methods of caring for fine bindings and the adoption of all possible means for the effective preservation of the Library's rare books.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING

The Bindery appears to be well equipped and efficient and to be turning out satisfactory work. We recommend the employment of a capable proof reader as a necessary step toward the greater efficiency of the Printing Department.

#### BRANCHES

The Committee is heartily in sympathy with the suggestions contained in a letter from Mr. George R. Nutter to the effect that in conference with the city authorities a comprehensive plan of branch library development, covering a number of years, should be worked up with a view to improved housing and a more adequate equipment of books for the branches.



In visiting the branch libraries, the Committee has sought to observe both the physical condition of the branches and the effectiveness of their work. On the whole, the branch libraries appear to be kept as neatly and attractively as conditions allow. The librarians are courteous and show a spirit of enthusiasm and interest in their work. The Committee is pleased to note that local conditions are being carefully studied to the end of a more intelligent service to the public.

Several branches require more room, but the most urgent need is for more books. Some improvement can be made in the illumination and ventilation. It is quite clear that branch libraries are most effective when housed in buildings used exclusively for library purposes; a separate building for each branch library is an ideal to be earnestly sought.

Comments on the needs of the separate branches, arranged in alphabetical order, are given below; these are based on the observations of visiting members of the Committee. We wish to emphasize the special needs of the Allston, Mt. Bowdoin, Orient Heights, and Parker Hill branches, where the facilities are very inadequate and the work is being conducted under serious difficulties.

*Boylston Station.* A proper rest room for the staff is needed and the heating facilities should be improved. A better building should be provided for this branch in the near future.

*Brighton.* More room is needed for both children and adults. The interior should be repainted in lighter color and a new floor covering should be laid. Immediate attention should be given to this branch in order to keep up with the needs of the district.

*Codman Square.* A separate children's room should be provided here, as the crowding of the building with children is at present keeping adults away. The reading tables need repair.

*Faneuil.* More room is needed here with larger accommodations for adults. The interior is dark and somewhat gloomy.

*Hyde Park.* This library appears to be well equipped, except for magazine racks and grills for the better protection of certain books.

*Lower Mills.* More room could be used here.



*Mattapan.* This branch is very crowded and needs both more room and better ventilation.

*Memorial.* The approach to this library up the long stone steps might be made easier and safer for elderly people if hand rails were provided. Fuller use might well be made of the ground floor for lectures or other library purposes.

*Mount Bowdoin.* This branch is desperately in need of more space and should be among the first to receive attention. A proper rest room for the staff should be provided.

*Mount Pleasant.* This branch needs more room with larger stack space for books. A suitable rest room should also be provided here.

*Orient Heights.* The location of this branch should be changed as soon as possible. At present it is in a rented building said to be infested with rats. Above the library is a hall used for entertainments which often disturb readers in the library. A new building should be erected in this section, which is growing rapidly.

*Parker Hill.* The use of this branch is growing rapidly and its facilities are inadequate. It needs better ventilation and other repairs at once.

*Roslindale.* This branch is located directly under a noisy gymnasium, the use of which seriously interferes with library work. More room is needed and might be found in the hall of the adjacent municipal building. The rest room should be improved.

*Roxbury Crossing.* More tables and chairs should be provided for children at this branch.

*Tyler Street.* The quarters of the library should be remodelled for more satisfactory service; this could be done without great expense.

*West Roxbury.* This attractive branch needs more stack room and better arrangements for lighting.

More room could also well be used at Andrew Square, Jamaica Plain, and South Boston.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, March 25, 1929.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my annual report for the year ending December 31, 1928.

In the pages which follow, as in every year, a detailed account is given of the activities of the various departments of the Library. Figures are quoted throughout and speak for themselves. Librarians are often thought to lay too great emphasis upon statistics. It is true that they, as well as the general public, are impressed by numbers; but however apt this criticism may be in other fields, in marking library progress, as in all matters of education, figures are of moment. The larger the number of persons benefitted by an institution like the Boston Public Library, the better both for the people and for the institution. Figures are certainly not everything. But when figures stand for human understanding, they are immensely important. The year 1928 was a year of healthy expansion. The number of books added to the Library, the number of books lent by the Library, the number of readers using the Library for borrowing and for reference all show a satisfying increase.

On the last day of the year there were 148,671 card-holders, 7,270 more than a year before; 96,163 volumes had been added to the collections, making now a total of 1,442,802 volumes in the library system. The number of books taken out for home use was 3,899,286, a gain of 193,629 over 1927. And there has been busy life in all the reading and study rooms where uncounted people have consulted uncounted volumes taken from both closed bookstacks and from the open shelves.

In spite of the somewhat slow growth of the city's population, the home circulation of books has nearly doubled in the past ten years. Particularly noticeable has been the gain in the last three years: an average of over 289,000 volumes each year. Un-

questionably this gain has been due mainly to the increase of the annual city appropriation for the purchase of books, which, during these three years, amounted to \$125,000 as against \$100,000 in 1925 and \$60,000 in 1920-21. This sum is still far from adequate to provide the required number of copies of good current books. Generally speaking, it is still true that three times out of four a borrower is unable to secure the desired volume at the Central Library or at any of its branches, not because the Library does not possess the book but because its appropriation does not allow it to buy enough copies to meet the reasonable number of requests. In many cases the Library owns but a single copy of a worth-while book and consequently many people must often be disappointed. With a few copies only of a best-seller the library cannot satisfy at one and the same time a score of requests. On the other hand it is obvious that the line must be drawn somewhere on books in passing popular demand. One may question, indeed, whether the public has any right to expect to find at its disposal every best-seller for which there happens to be a rush at the moment and which is quite forgotten six months or a year later. What is really regrettable is that the Library cannot meet the reasonable and legitimate demand for books of proven value. The cost of worth-while books is constantly increasing. It is of significance to note that Cleveland, a city whose population is comparable to that of Boston, has a book appropriation exactly twice that of the Boston institution. The increase in the book appropriation in the last three years, however, has made it possible to keep somewhat more nearly abreast of the demands of the public, especially in the branch libraries, which, in earlier years, were wholly unable to cope with the needs of the resident card-holders.

With all recognition of the helpful service freely given to the countless everyday users of the Library, it must not be forgotten that this Boston institution holds a peculiar position among the public libraries of America. It should be the aim of the City and its citizens to maintain its standing as one of the three great, scholarly, free public libraries of the country. This cannot be done without an adequate income devoted to this purpose. The amount annually available from the present trust funds of the

Library is still below \$30,000, so that the problem of keeping our collections up to the old standard is becoming an increasingly serious one. On that meagre income, aided by occasional personal donations of rare books, the Library depends almost wholly for the yearly additions to its notable scholarly collections. The city book appropriations must be expended for the more popular books and in the interest of the average reader, rather than for the scholar and research worker.

The Library needs generous friends who are willing to contribute to the maintenance and development of its unique collections. At present the university libraries seem almost to monopolize the attention of such benefactors. Yet no assurance is needed here that the book treasures which could be bought from the income of larger benefactions would be entirely in their proper place in this Library. The Boston Public Library, should in ever increasing measure be able to fulfil, for persons other than students and professors, a public service not within the scope of private institutions of learning.

The great need for the proper protection of the valuable possessions of the Library is soon to be satisfied. Under a special appropriation of \$250,000, work is now in progress on the reconstruction of the northern portion of the third floor, where these collections have been located. The Music Room is to be transformed into a Treasure Room where thousands of the Library's choicest treasures will be protected and where some of them may be constantly exhibited under ideal conditions. The present Barton-Ticknor Room is to become the Music Room, in which, for the first time, all the music material in the Library will be brought together and made easily accessible to both students and the general public. The Barton-Ticknor Division is to be moved into the North Gallery, so remodelled as to accomodate a larger number of books than in the past. In all of these rooms the shelving will be of steel construction. It is, perhaps, not too much to hope that this more adequate protection and enlarged possibility of usefulness will in itself attract the attention of prospective benefactors.

Much has been accomplished during the year toward "putting our house in order." In the Central Library and at the branches



various important repairs have been made, which are mentioned in detail in their proper connection in this report. The Central Library is now, on the whole, in a fairly satisfactory condition. Unfortunately, this cannot be said of at least ten of the branches. At Andrew Square, Codman Square, Jeffries Point, Mattapan, Mount Bowdoin, Neponset, Orient Heights, Parker Hill, Roslindale and South Boston the space available is far too small for the work which is being carried on. Important improvements have been made during the year at two branches. At Boylston Station a well-equipped Children's Room has been added, and at City Point a room has been equipped for the use of adults.

The Library has been doing its modest share in the field of Adult Education. Special mention should be made of the service of the Readers' Adviser, which was started on February 20 last. Judging from the large number of persons who have sought the help of this office and who have followed up the courses prescribed, a healthy growth of this service may be anticipated. The use of the Lecture Hall by the Library and outside organizations shows a steady increase. A notable feature of the season was the large number of concerts. For the first time it has been feasible to devote every Sunday evening to some sort of musical program, and only on exceptional occasions has it been possible to seat all those who have desired to attend the concerts. The free Chamber Music Concerts presented by the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation, administered by the Library of Congress, have received a particularly hearty response. The Library Lecture Course has an honored place among the educational opportunities of Boston, and it is gratifying to note the willingness of lecturers to contribute to the success of the course. The people of Boston owe a real debt to the long line of able and distinguished speakers and musicians who have given instruction and delight to the Library audiences without any financial recompense.

#### ACCESSIONS AND GIFTS.

The total number of volumes added to the library collections in 1928 was 96,163, acquired as follows: 77,433 by purchase, 14,431 by gift, 101 by exchange, 2,034 by binding of periodi-

cals, 2,002 by binding of serials and 162 by binding of newspapers. Material other than books: lantern slides, photographs, prints, phonograph records, etc. amounted to 13,140 pieces, of which 5,033 were by purchase and 8,107 by gift. The total number of volumes and pieces accessioned thus amounted to 109,303.

Of the 77,433 purchased volumes 13,827 were placed in the Central Library and 63,606 in the branch libraries and in the Deposit Collection at the Central Library which serves as a reservoir for the branches. Of the 14,431 gift books 12,825 were placed in the Central Library. Here were placed also all the bound volumes of the serials, newspapers and, with few exceptions, of the periodicals. In all, of the 96,143 volumes\* acquired during the year, 30,930 were placed in the Central Library and 65,233 in the branches.

The total sum expended for purchase of books was \$154,436.42, of which \$126,303.03 was taken from city appropriations and \$28,133.39 from the income of trust funds. The corresponding amount for the preceding year was \$154,841.06, including \$27,413.40 paid from the trust funds income.

The city appropriation for books was the same as in the last two years, namely, \$125,000. All but two cents of this was spent. The fact that, as shown by the balance sheet, the expenditures from city funds exceeded the appropriation by \$1,303.03 is accounted for by the expenditure in England of sums from previous appropriations that were on deposit there.

Of the \$126,303.03 spent from the city appropriations, \$30,155.97 was for the Central Library and \$96,147.06 for the branches. It may be of interest to note how these funds were used. In the Central Library: \$22,517.01 was paid for 10,526 volumes, \$7,141.06 for 1,479 periodicals, \$488.51 for 278 newspapers, and the remaining \$9.39 for photographs and miscellaneous articles. In the branch libraries: \$91,572.50 was paid for 62,565 books, \$3,821.70 for 1,738 periodicals, \$748.61 for newspapers, and the remaining \$4.25 for photographs.

Of the \$28,133.39 spent from trust funds income, \$27,213 was for the Central Library and \$920.39 for the branches. In the Central Library 3,301 books, 398 music scores, 4,403 lan-



tern slides, 277 photographs and other miscellaneous items were bought, and 248 newspapers were subscribed to from this sum. In the branches the whole amount was expended for the purchase of 1,041 volumes.

These figures show how much material was acquired, but do not show how much more that was legitimately requested could not be bought. The old complaint that the income of the trust funds is not sufficient to maintain the scholarly and reference collections of the Library is increasingly felt.

The following titles represent a brief selection of the items bought mainly from the income of the trust funds:

Bedford, England . . . The church book of Bunyan Meeting, 1650–1821. Being a reproduction in facsimile of the original folio . . . with an introduction by G. B. Harrison, London. J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd. 1928.

Book, The, of popular science . . . edited by a group of distinguished scientists, N. Y. The Grolier Society. (1928.) 16 v.

Browne, Sir Thomas . . . *Religio medici*. Engraved title-page by William Marshall. [London.]. Printed for Andrew Crooke, 1642. First issue of the first unauthorized edition. In the same binding is *Observations upon Religio medici*, by Sir Kemel M. Digby, 1643.

Childrey, Joshua . . . *Syzygiasticon instauratum*. Or, an ephemeris of the places and aspects of the planets, as they respect the 0 as center of their orbes, calculated for the year of the Incarnation of God, 1653 . . . London. Printed by T. Mabb. 1653.

Collection of 197 numbers or groups of 17th, 18th, and 19th century chap books.

Conklin, Edwin P., and others . . . *Middlesex County and its people: a history*. N. Y. Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc. 1927. 5 v.

*Dictionary of American Biography* . . . Edited by Allen Johnson, N. Y. Scribners. 1928. To be in 20 vols. Vol. 1. (Two sets: one for Central and one for Memorial Branch.)

Jones, Herschel V. . . . *Adventures in Americana, 1492–1897* . . . Being a selection of books from the library of Herschel V. Jones . . . with a preface by Wilberforce Eames. New York. Rudge. 1928. 2 v. No. 52 of an edition of 200 copies.

*Orderly Book of Company No. 6, Second Regiment, Legionary Brigade, First Division, Massachusetts militia, commanded by Jonathan Whitney Capt. Manuscript orderly book with entries 1809–1816 including the entire period of the War of 1812.*

Schubert, Franz. . . . *Der Geistertanz*. Original manuscript (One leaf) of the first thirty measures of the song. Signed by the composer with the date October 14, 1814.

- Sylvester, Charles H., Editor . . . The writings of mankind. Selections from the writings of all ages, with extensive historical notes, comment and criticism. Chicago. Bellows-Reeve Co. [1924.]. 20 v.
- W., B. . . . The young secretary's guide: or, a speedy help to learning. Boston. Printed by B. Green for Nicholas Buttolph. 1708. (The only known copy of this edition of an interesting early Boston imprint. The library has also the edition of 1707.)

Many of the fine arts books, printed in large folio or quarto form and lavishly illustrated, are particularly expensive. As examples, the following items may be quoted:

- La Faille, J. B. de. . . . L'œuvre de Vincent van Gogh. Catalogue raisonné. Paris. Van Oest. 1928. 4 v.
- Nutting, Wallace. . . . Furniture treasury (mostly of American origin). All periods of American furniture with some foreign examples in America, also American hardware and household utensils. Framingham, Mass. Old America Company. (1928.) 2 v.
- Ratta, Cesare. . . . L'arte del libro e della rivista [nei paesi d' Europa d' America. Bologna. Cesare Ratta. 1927.]. 2 v.
- Sonn, Albert H. . . . Early American wrought iron. N. Y. Scribners. 1928. 3 v.

Three gifts of funds were received by the Library during the year. From the executors of the estate of Mr. Alfred Hemenway, late of Boston, \$5000, and from the executor of the estate of Mr. Gardener O. North, late of Boston, \$2000 were received. Both these bequests were funded with the provision that the income be expended for the purchase of books and other library material until otherwise ordered by the Trustees. Mr. Louis E. Kirstein made his usual donation of \$1000, to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund."

Hon. Alvan T. Fuller presented a copy in bronze of the Declaration of Independence. The gift has been accepted by the Trustees and the tablet permanently located, with the approval of the Art Commission, at the bottom of the stairway which leads to Sargent Gallery.

The more important gifts have been listed monthly in the Library's bulletin "More Books". A selected list of these may be found on pp. 79-82 of the Appendix.

The business of the Ordering Department requires much routine work. During the year 4,298 bills were entered, 31,598 periodical numbers were recorded and 3,125 engraved gift ac-

knowledgegments were mailed. Further, 3,922 books were received on approval and 16,837 titles were examined.

Miss Theodosia Endicott Macurdy, for over thirty years Chief of the Ordering Department, retired voluntarily, under the Boston Retirement Act, on February 29, 1928. Mr. Louis Felix Ranlett, formerly librarian of the Millicent Library at Fairhaven, Mass., was appointed to take her place.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

During 1928 the number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued was 108,472, covering 78,167 titles. Of these, 49,754 volumes (25,721 titles) were taken care of in the Catalogue Department, and 58,718 volumes (52,446 titles) were assigned to the branch libraries and catalogued in the Central Branch Department.

Of the books catalogued in the Catalogue Department 27,544 volumes and parts (17,552 titles) were new to the Central Library; the number of serials added was 6,827; and 15,383 volumes and parts (8,169 titles) were recatalogued — thus making the total quoted above.

The number of printed cards added to the catalogues of the Central Library alone was 92,200, distributed as follows: 36,380 cards were filed in Bates Hall Catalogue, 38,237 in the Official Catalogue and 17,583 in the Special Libraries Department. In addition, 42,937 new printed cards were used for compiling bibliographies or, for the larger part, set aside for such use in the future; from this number, cards were also sent, as usual, to the Harvard College Library and the Library of Congress. The total of new printed cards, thus, was 135,137 — a gain of 69,720 over last year.

In order to hasten the appearance of new books in the catalogues, 17,049 temporary cards have been typed and filed by the Card Division to be replaced later by printed cards. As a result of this practice, titles of recent accessions have been in the catalogues as soon as the books have been placed on the shelves.

For the use of the Editor in making up the List of New Books in "More Books" — 5,437 cards have been typed. To replace

old cards the Division typed and filed, besides, 4,013 other cards. Corrections were made and new editions were indicated on 37,742 cards, a larger number than has ever been done before. In addition, thousands of cards have been stamped to indicate two or more copies, or removal to the Harvard Business Branch, while thousands of other cards have been removed for books that are lost, missing or condemned.

The Shelf Division has done much moving and temporary adjusting of shelves during past year. The books and cabinets in the North and West Galleries have been moved and readjusted. The shelves of Stack 6 Annex have been closed to secure place for the collections of the North (Barton) Gallery. Part of Annex 4 has been rearranged. The Duplicate Room has been partly cleared, and the duplicate city documents and directories sorted and shelved.

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of requests for photostats of books, plates, maps or manuscripts in the Library. Most of the work was done by the Boston Photocopy Print Company; occasionally also at Harvard, the Massachusetts Department of Archives, or the Massachusetts Historical Society. The amount charged during the year was about \$1,200, for photostats of about 3,100 pages and 325 plates and maps. It would be a great saving of time — and it would be much safer for the books and manuscripts — if an outfit could be installed in the Library. A part-time operator could take care of all the requests.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On January 1, 1928, there were 141,401 "live" cards in the hands of citizens of Boston, entitling them to borrow library books for home use. Through the Central Library and its 31 branches, 31,047 new registrations have been added and 45,937 renewals made, giving a total of 76,984 cards added during the year. On the other hand, 69,714 borrowers have allowed their home-use privilege to lapse. Thus, the total number of "live" cards on December 31, 1928, was 148,671 — a gain of 7,270 over last year. The gain in the number of card-holders the year previous was 5,956.



It is of interest to note that of 148,671 card-holders, 44,959 registered through the Central Library, and 103,712 through the branches. Other figures show the proportion of men and women. In 1928 there were 67,549 male card-holders (of these, 33,591 were under sixteen years of age) and 81,122 female card-holders (36,924 under sixteen). The number of adult card-holders exceeds that of the juveniles, being 78,156 as against 70,515.

Prior to January 1, 1928, 10,581 cards had been issued to teachers. Of this number, 1,642 have been renewed and 405 others issued during the year, making a total of 2,047 teachers' cards in use. Of the 4,008 special privilege cards issued prior to January 1, 1928, there have been 394 renewals; in addition, 333 new cards have been issued, which makes the number of special privilege cards in use 727.

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

The number of books issued last year for home use from the Central Library direct to readers was 347,958. Through the branches 95,469 more books were issued to readers, and 235,407 to schools and other institutions. With these the circulation of books from the Central Library would reach the figure of 678,834. However, the books issued through the branches, with the exception of 17,149 volumes, were taken from the Deposit Collection; thus these items are accounted for in the report of the branches.

The circulation has shown a slight increase; it exceeded by 1,868 that of the preceding year. The average daily circulation — not including the books which went through the branches — was 983. The largest circulation on a single day, on February 23, was 1,686. The number of works of fiction was 168,126; that of other books, 179,832.

Many people have the habit of retaining the books after they are due. To recover these books, 42,822 mail notices and 4,486 messenger notices were sent out. The fines collected for these delays amounted to \$4,664.31, and 658 volumes remained unrecovered. For 140 lost and 35 damaged books \$316.80 was paid to the Library.

The number of missing books (from the general collection, Bates Hall, Special Libraries, Children's Room, Open Shelves, Fiction) was 6,066. During the year 1,651 volumes reported as missing were found. 997 special requests were made to locate certain books for unsuccessful applicants. In 327 cases the books were delivered; in 259 they were reserved but not called for; in 96 the call numbers were wrong or the book was charged out, placed in other departments, etc.; and finally in 315 cases there were no definite records.

This department handles also the articles lost and found in the building. 1,295 articles were found, of which 526 were returned to the owners, 690 destroyed and the others carried over. The sum of \$312.16 found in the Library was returned to the owners, and \$10.51 to the finders.

The open shelves for recent fiction in the north-east corner of the Delivery Room have been used by many people. Handicapped as the Library is by the limitation of space, it would be desirable to transfer these shelves to the Open Shelf Room where the new non-fiction books are located.

#### EVENING AND SUNDAY SERVICE.

The total circulation in the evening hours and Sundays at the Central Library amounted to 34,957, of which 9,549 were charged from the Children's Room. This figure was included in the general home circulation from the Central Library.

The largest home-use circulation on Sunday occurred on December 2, when 1,066 books were taken out; and the largest Sunday attendance in Bates Hall was on February 26, when, at five o'clock in the afternoon, 293 persons were present.

#### BATES HALL AND REFERENCE WORK.

The attendance in Bates Hall has shown a steady increase. The number of books sent to Bates Hall from the stacks was 266,968, a gain of 6,345 over the preceding year. During the academic season the hall is usually crowded. The maximum attendance was on January 7, at four o'clock in the afternoon, when 358 readers were recorded. (Many of those present must



have been standing or consulting the catalogues, since the seating capacity of the Hall is only 310.) During the summer the situation is different: for August the maximum daily attendance was 81. It is interesting to note that in January, with the constantly large attendance, 26,962 books were sent to the hall from the stacks, while in August, with the constantly low attendance, 15,329. In other words, in January about four times as many people used the Hall as in August, and yet the number of stack books sent to them was less than twice the number used in August. These figures seem to bear out the observation that many of the students from the neighbouring colleges and institutions are occupying the hall as a study room without using library books. Furthermore, these students are often far from quiet so that it may be necessary in the future to consider steps for guarding the interests of the legitimate readers.

The Reference Collection is under constant revision. During the year 365 volumes were added, 200 were returned to the stacks as out of date, 236 were transferred to new locations and 40 were removed through condemnation or on account of the difficulty of replacement. 135 current annuals or "continuations" replaced earlier editions. Among the important new tools which became available during the year should be mentioned the two publications of the H. W. Wilson Co, "The New United States Catalogue of Books in print January 1, 1928," and the "Union List of Serials in the Libraries of the United States and Canada," both of them monumental examples of bibliographical labor, which add greatly to the efficiency of every library in which they are used. The appearance of the first volume of the "New Dictionary of American Biography" is also an event of importance to the reference work of American libraries.

During the year 254 books disappeared from the shelves; this figure, which is one hundred larger than that of last year is accounted for by the fact that in 1927 no inventory was made of a number of ranges on which rearrangement was in process. The average for the two years shows a loss distinctly below the average of the last ten years. As a partial offset to the losses, 35 volumes missing in previous years reappeared during the year.

In the Bates Hall Card Catalogue complete entries have been made for every book now on the shelves of the hall.

The work of the Reference Department in general presents few novelties. The ebb and flow of readers is constant and the answering of questions goes on with little intermission. The use of the telephone is increasing and it is clear that a telephone booth must soon be installed at the Catalogue end of the hall to avoid annoyance to readers. The correspondence was maintained at about the same figures as last year. On genealogical subjects, 235 and on general subjects, 572 inquiries were answered by mail. These inquiries were received from widely scattered sources with Massachusetts leading and New York second. It is noteworthy that in the field on genealogy 37 inquiries came from New York, almost twice as many as those from Massachusetts, a discrepancy undoubtedly due to the fact that most genealogical students from Massachusetts were able to visit the Library or made use of the library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Requests for information were received from six foreign countries and from a number of the provinces of Canada. It is interesting to note that many urgent calls for information are received at this Library from writers in cities well equipped with library facilities, a tribute to the wide prestige of the Boston Public Library.

The demand for the various numbers of the "Reading with a Purpose" series still goes on. During the year 2,766 copies were sold, in addition to 14,049 copies sold since August 1925 when the series was started. The Library has also given assistance in the preparation of the 96-page list of "Better Books for Christmas" issued by the Board of Trade of Boston Book Merchants, and has distributed some 15,000 copies of this attractive pamphlet, which is proving to be a valuable means of raising the standard of the books purchased by the people of Boston. The list is to be continued as a quarterly publication, in which the Library will coöperate.

The equipment of Bates Hall has been improved by the renovation of the table lights and the installation of stronger lamps. An additional table has been placed in the enclosure at the north

end of the Hall and the capacity of the Card Catalogue has been increased by three large cases of drawers.

The service of books to readers in the Hall will be far more satisfactory when — as we hope, next year — the present pneumatic tubes will be replaced by new ones, less subject to accidents with the resulting delays.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

"More Books," the Bulletin of the Library, has completed its third year. The publication has been conducted along the same lines as before, and has now an established position with our public as well as in the library world of America. "More Books" is neither a strictly bibliographical nor a deliberately popular journal; it attempts to combine both of these qualities, expressive of the distinctive character of the Boston Public Library itself.

Nine issues of the Bulletin were published last year as against seven in 1927 and six in 1926. The purpose is to publish ten issues every year: nine monthly numbers during the season and one quarterly for the summer. It is hoped that next year this schedule may be kept without the necessity of issuing any double number. In all, the Bulletin comprised last year 420 pages, sixty pages more than the previous year. Of each issue there are printed 4,500 copies, of which about 750 are sent by mail to other libraries, newspapers and subscribers, the rest being distributed at the Central Library and at the branches.

The leading article of "More Books" is usually an essay of six or seven thousand words, written on the book treasures of the Library or on some topic of library interest. Thus, the March issue contained an article on medieval manuscripts, together with a descriptive catalogue of such manuscripts in the Library. Through the permission of the Director, this article was reprinted in full in the July issue of "The Catholic Historical Review." In the April issue about a dozen English tracts of the Civil War and the Commonwealth, newly acquired by the Library, were described. In the October, a detailed historical and bibliographical account was given of a number of rare astronomical works, recently bought for the Bowditch Collection. In November, in connection with an exhibit at the Library, an article was pub-

lished about children's books, illustrative of their development from horn-book and battle-dore to the finely printed and decorated modern children's books. The controversy about the "finds" at Glozel was described and analysed in February, calling attention to the Library's unusually rich source materials on archæological subjects. This article was commented upon at length in the issue for April 1 of the "*Mercure de France*," of Paris. The year 1928 was a year of anniversaries; commemorative articles were published on Albrecht Dürer, Oliver Goldsmith and John Bunyan, discussing also the books that appeared for the occasion of these anniversaries or describing the rare editions of the works of these men in the Library. In the May issue was printed the Director's address "Library Service in an Understanding World," delivered at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association at West Baden, Indiana, May 30. Most of these articles were illustrated by facsimiles; in all thirteen reproductions appeared during the year.

Each issue of the Bulletin carries a classified list of the books recently acquired by the Library, with descriptive notes added to a large number of the items. The rare books, fine editions and other important new acquisitions as well as books of local interest are discussed in special notes. A regular feature of the publication is "Ten Books," in which ten of the outstanding new books, ranging from art and literature to sociology and science are reviewed in an informative rather than critical manner. "Reading the Magazines," with short paragraphs about the current issues of the leading American and foreign periodicals, also gives a sense of timeliness to the Bulletin. The articles and notes, in all, occupied 191 printed pages out of the total of 420.

Three numbers have been added during the year to the series "Brief Reading Lists." No. 30 was entitled "Costumes"; No. 37 was a list on "Unemployment"; and No. 36 contained a list of books on "Redemption," Tolstoy's play performed in December at the Boston Opera House. "Presidential Elections," No. 17 of the series, was reissued with substantial revisions.

Bibliographical lists have been printed, as in former years, for the lectures on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra as well as for the free concerts given in the Lecture Hall of the



Library, prominent among which were the Chamber Music Concerts presented under the auspices of the Library of Congress, Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation.

The Library pamphlet "Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston," a list of free public lectures and public educational courses, was again published for 1928-29. Brief accounts of forums and museums in and around Boston have been added to the pamphlet which comprised this year 118 pages.

#### INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT ROOM AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

Three different branches of service are united here under one heading, the three being located in adjoining rooms.

The Information Office continues its double function: To tourists, strangers and other visitors it gives information about the Library's many departments and services; besides, by ready-reference files of Telephone and Business Directories, Chamber of Commerce Reports and other business and vocational publications it satisfies the needs of regular patrons. The Information Booth that has been installed in the Entrance Hall, and to which the visitor naturally turns with his inquiries, relieves the Office from answering many of the simpler questions about the Library.

As the charging desk has been put into the Open Shelf Room, the public has now better access to the Vocational Guidance and Business Files. Over 6,500 pieces of a vocational character have been added to the file during the year. The college catalogues have been continuously consulted as well as the circulars of vacation courses in Germany, France, Italy and England. Thousands of University Extension bulletins have been distributed, apart from opportunities for studies abroad, the Travel File offers admirable material for those interested in summer or winter trips and excursions. The Business File has been carefully weeded out; if a bulletin was discontinued, another of the same type was procured. During the year over 3,050 copies of such publications were received and filed.

The service of the Government Document Room is supplementary to that of the Information Office. Government publications, in number 9,428 have been filed here during the year, and

the number of persons who used them was 9,696. More and more people realize the value of these varied publications. The documents are invaluable for students writing theses or doing other research work; but information has been regularly solicited also by business organizations, banks, statistical bureaus, the Chamber of Commerce, as well as other libraries. The catalogue of these "continuations" made in 1927, giving the Library call-number for each document series and thus saving the inconvenience of looking up the desired material in the Bates Hall Catalogue, proves its worth to the public.

The clippings from the "United States Daily" posted on the bulletin board in the Entrance Hall of the Library, have increased in popularity. There have been 726 requests for such clippings as against 246 in 1927. Furthermore, these articles have attracted many additional inquirers to the Document Room.

The Open Shelf Room has been even busier last year than the year before, the circulation rising to 47,574. During the summer months 559 additional volumes were used in the courtyard; from these 87 volumes were charged for home use.

The collection in the Room is constantly refreshed with new books. The place is so small that unless volumes are frequently changed, the collection becomes stale to constant visitors. But in spite of every effort, it is obvious that the Room cannot adequately serve the public. In the evening hours during the winter months it is often so crowded that one can hardly move. It is a well-known fact that nothing stimulates reading more than free access to the books — particularly to new books. There is no lack of interest on the part of the public; the problem is how to meet that interest. It is much to be regretted that the Library is unable to provide at present more space for this open shelf service.

#### NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

The Newspaper Room is almost always filled. The maximum attendance at one time was 115, on December 9 at four o'clock in the afternoon. A considerable improvement has been made in the lighting conditions of the room by the installation of ten large chandeliers and a number of wall brackets.



The number of papers is the same as in the previous year: two papers were added and two dropped. In all, 268 papers are received, of which 189 are published in America and 79 abroad. Of the American papers, 155 are dailies and 34 are weeklies; of the foreign papers, 61 are dailies and 18 weeklies. Of the American papers 15 are in foreign languages. The 79 foreign papers are published in thirty-one different countries; among them, 12 in England, 10 in Canada, 9 in Germany, 6 in Ireland and 5 in France. The language of 44 of these papers is English, of 11 is German, and of 9 is French.

In all, 182 bound volumes of newspapers have been added to the files, which now contain 9,539 volumes. During the year 19,349 readers consulted 34,603 volumes as against 19,264 readers and 33,174 volumes in 1927. Most of these bound volumes are kept in the gallery of the Patent Room, where a completely new lighting system has been installed and also new shelving has been constructed.

The Patent Collection consists of 10,613 volumes, including 682 volumes added during the year. In the new additions the United States was represented by 281 volumes, Germany by 228, Great Britain by 162 and five other countries by the remaining 11 volumes.

In the course of the year 20,708 persons used 111,183 volumes. But as practically all the shelves are accessible to the public, it is impossible to give accurate figures of the use of the Patent Room.

#### PERIODICAL DEPARTMENT.

The work of the Periodical Department is also steadily increasing. The larger part of the readers consists of students, consulting the files of periodicals for supplementary reading in connection with their courses. From the colleges and high schools of Greater Boston, thousands of young men and women, boys and girls have used the room for this purpose.

Apart from the student body, business houses, insurance companies and the large department stores frequently apply for material that may help them in their current problems. Thus, from the trade publications they derive information on com-

parative trade developments and the variation of prices. Many club women, in preparing a paper or following up a recent lecture, ask for material on a variety of subjects. In addition, a great deal of reference work is done with the "general public," with people wishing to read a certain book review, a certain short story, poem or article.

As a result, the reference room has been crowded throughout the year: even the inner room, supposed to be reserved for the general reader was often used by reference students.

The following figures give the gross number of visitors, showing also the increase during the year:

#### ATTENDANCE ON WEEK DAYS..

At the hours:	10	12	2	4	6	8	9.45
	A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1927 . . .	19,374	22,197	37,261	41,863	26,192	29,214	15,357
1928 . . .	20,867	23,214	39,173	43,819	27,129	29,746	16,043
Sundays at 1 P.M.							
1927 . . . . .	9,173						
1928 . . . . .	10,547						

Correspondingly higher was the number of magazines asked for in 1928. In the day-time 68,449 and during evenings and Sundays 25,732 bound volumes of magazines were consulted as against 60,785 and 24,527 in the year before. There was a similar rise in the use of back numbers of magazines not yet bound. In the day-time 72,827 and during evenings and Sundays 32,538 were called for as against 66,246 and 30,124 in the preceding year.

The number of bound volumes on shelves in the department was, at the end of the year, 23,113.

The department has received during the year 1,292 current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by state and federal governments. All these are kept on file in the department. In addition, the Central Library receives 300 current periodicals filed in other departments: 155 in the Special Libraries (Fine Arts and Music Division), 27 in the Ordering Department, 55 in the Statistical Department and finally, 63 in the Teachers' Reference and Children's Room.

This brings up the total number of periodicals currently received in the Central Library to 1,592.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building, and comprise four separate divisions: the Fine Arts, Technology, Music, and the Barton-Ticknor Divisions.

Since the Fine Arts and Technology Divisions are located in the same rooms, the charging out of books for home use is done at the same desk. During the year 26,704 books have been issued from the two Divisions as against 25,195 in 1927. The hall-use of Fine Arts and Technical books has also increased, but, with open shelves, it is impossible to gather definite statistics.

The lantern slide collection, augmented by recent purchases to some 17,000 pieces, has proved its value. During the year 14,920 slides have been loaned as against 8,443 in 1927. The increase in the size and scope of the collection has made necessary a new arrangement of the slides which, now partly completed, greatly simplifies their handling.

Last year there was a further decrease in the circulation of pictures to schools: 23,203 pieces were loaned as against 27,039 in 1927. This decrease is partly due to the re-organization of the Fine Arts collection, and partly to the increase in the resources of the branch libraries. Since most of the branches have been lending pictures to teachers from their own collection, it has been decided to put the whole circulation of pictures to schools in the hands of the branches and use the Fine Arts collection as a central deposit. It will remain important, however, to have a sufficient number of pictures on general subjects in this collection for use of designers, advertisers and the general public. Considerable study has been given to the reference collection of pictures, and, as a result, a start has been made on a comprehensive plan of filing and indexing.

The reconstruction of the Barton-Ticknor Room has necessitated the removal of several collections to temporary locations, which makes it more difficult to give prompt service. But in spite of the distance of these collections from the room, there has

been no unreasonable delay in the delivery of the desired volumes. Because of the great value of the books in the collections of this division, it has been found necessary to discourage the use of these copies when other editions could be found in the main collection. Undergraduates who wished to use these early and rare editions as texts have been referred to Bates Hall. Incidentally, this has resulted in a great improvement of the conditions for study, by advanced students and scholars, without any appreciable decrease in the number of visitors. During the year 12,412 books of the division have been used.

The projected removal of the Music Division to larger quarters — namely, to the present Barton Room — will bring together its reference and circulating collections, and will afford an opportunity for shelving these collections on a more modern plan. Accordingly, a preliminary survey of the music classification of the Library of Congress is being made with a view to adopting it in a somewhat condensed form.

As in former years, the Music Division in coöperation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, has organized a series of interpretive lectures on the Symphony Concerts and operas; and in connection with the lectures, book lists and programme notes have been regularly printed. The use of books and scores shows an increase over that of last year. Items to the number of 9,690 have been used in the Music Reading Room and 6,824 have been issued for home use. A year before the corresponding figures were 9,623 and 6,688.

#### STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

The resources of the Statistical Department are constantly sought for by business men and business women, and the students of the high schools, colleges and universities. The unusually active life of the stock market brought many inquiries from investors of both sexes and all ages; and the news and figures of the financial magazines were eagerly followed by many visitors.

With 911 books added during the year, the Statistical Collection now numbers 25,523 volumes. The larger number are in the various fields of economy and sociology. Many volumes are kept on open shelves, therefore no report can be given of the



number of books consulted in the Department. The number of volumes sent to Bates Hall for use was 2,171, while 2,598 books were charged out for home use.

The number of financial magazines regularly received by the Department is 97. Of these 61 are published in this country, and 36 abroad. Of the foreign magazines, 8 come from England; 3 from Canada; 1 from Australia; 8 from France; 2 from Germany and the rest from ten other countries.

The Department has also very important source material in the government publications. In addition to an almost complete file of the state and federal documents, collections may also be found in this Department of the English Parliamentary Papers and the yearbooks and other publications of many European countries.

Mr. Horace L. Wheeler, who had been in charge of the Department since 1911, retired under the Boston Retirement Act on October 31, 1928. Mrs. Mary Watkins Dietrichson, previously connected with the Harvard School of Business Administration and the Minneapolis Public Library, has been appointed his successor.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The home use of children's books amounted to 1,764,374, an increase of 73,105 over the preceding year. Since the apportionment of the book budget allowed this year a smaller share to children's books than in 1927, the growth indicates a healthy expansion. But the actual use of the Library by readers considered "juvenile" is even larger than would appear from the statistics, because the required school reading for those under sixteen now embraces a large number of titles which are ordinarily classified as adult. A shorter stay in the "easy book" stage is noticeable in different parts of the city, and the assistants who have watched the change in the choice of books on the part of children, have been prompt to suggest a more advanced type of reading.

New rooms for the accommodation of children have been opened at the Boylston Station Branch and the City Point

Branch. Additional comment may be found in this report under the heading "The Branch System."

The reorganization of the branch library staff has made it possible to appoint six new children's librarians to the departmental work. It is hoped that the number may be increased every year until the proper quota is reached, and also that further training may be given to assistants with the desired personality and ability for work in this special field. For the first time, two members of the staff requested and were granted leave of absence to take a nine months' course in work with children at the Library School of Western Reserve University, Cleveland. From their practical experience in the libraries of another system, as well as from their formal academic study, these young women should derive a broadening influence that will enable them to contribute materially to the Library's service for children.

As new tides of children reach the reading age, they enter the story-hour groups in the different branch libraries and thus become acquainted with many fine stories through hearing them told. It is significant that this old method has been extended in some libraries by the practice of reading aloud, also to adults. Among the assistants, a small group has shown sufficient aptitude to story telling to make further training desirable. Mrs. John J. Cronan, the library story teller, has given to this group a short course of instruction with opportunities for practice under supervision, with the result that the department is now able to depend upon a larger number of assistants for this form of work.

The public schools have called upon the Library more than ever before for visits from story tellers prepared to introduce good literature to large classes of children. For this kind of audience, expert story tellers are wanted, and the Library is fortunate in being able to respond to the requests. A constantly widening circle of teachers and headmasters, who would like to claim the story tellers for an indefinite period, express their appreciation of the type of literature which is included in the programmes, and of the effect which it has upon the young hearers.

The Library contact with the school is stronger than with any other institution. On account of the growing importance of the Junior High School there is an increasing demand for reference



material suitable for its pupils. All over the city the children's rooms are establishing pamphlet files and special indexes to provide information or supply source material, on industrial and commercial subjects. In some of the branches definite effort has been made to teach the use of the card catalogue and reference books. At Memorial Branch, for the girls of the Memorial High School, one hundred and twenty such lessons have been given. As usual, deposit sets for class room use were supplied to schools all over the city. The Library has also co-operated with the Woman's Municipal League by supplementing with books certain traveling collections lent to schools through this organization.

For several years past, the circulation of books from the Children's Room of the Central Library has shown a decrease. This is amply explained by the changing character of that part of the city adjoining Copley Square. Business houses are taking the place of many residences. The traffic dangers have also greatly multiplied, so that parents are unwilling to allow their children to cross the Square alone.

Two improvements have greatly benefitted the department: the new work-room adjoining the picture booth above the rear of the Lecture Hall and the new tiled covering of the floor of the Children's Room. In the work-room the mending and repairing of books, their preparation for the bindery, as also the typewriting incidental to departmental routine, can be carried on more expeditiously than has been hitherto possible. The warm-toned floor covering has dignified the room, and has made also the working conditions easier.

As usual, a number of exhibitions have been held during the year. In connection with "Book Week" in November an exhibit was arranged in the Venetian Lobby, attracting also the attention of many adults. Little, Brown and Company lent an unusual display of photographs, letters and personal belongings connected with the Alcott family. The Children's Department was also instrumental in obtaining for exhibition the choice collection of old-fashioned children's books owned by Mr. Wilbur Macey Stone of New York. From young children to fastidious collectors, thousands of people viewed with the greatest interest

this exhibit, shown during November and December in the Exhibition Room.

The Supervisor of Work with Children filled as customary, a number of speaking engagements with schools and parents' associations. She gave also two lectures at the Library School in Cleveland and five at the New Hampshire Summer Institute for Librarians. All these addresses related to children's books or library work with children.

Two lists were prepared in the department, on "Vacation Reading for Boys and Girls" and a second edition of "Inexpensive Books."

#### TEACHERS' ROOM.

While the Teachers' Room is actually supplementing the work of the Reference Department and the Periodical Room, its location and the history of its growth have combined to make it a part of the Children's Department. Some of the persons who seek information from the books shelved in the Teachers' Room require also material belonging in the Children's Department, but the majority of patrons are students of education in the neighboring colleges and teachers who are pursuing advanced courses of study. The facilities of the Room are much appreciated; indeed, at times not only every seat is taken, but the students overflow into the Children's Room—a situation not to be encouraged.

The Library subscribes to forty-one magazines on education, keeping the current numbers in the Teachers' Room and the bound volumes in the gallery of the Children's Room. At all seasons there is a steady call for this periodical literature. Many pamphlets covering courses of study in other cities, as well as surveys of educational systems and curriculum programmes are kept on file. The assistant-in-charge also makes note of bibliographies in books and magazines and prepares lists of books and periodical articles on timely topics. In addition, the Teachers' Room is becoming better prepared to give service to parents, who wish to consult books on the psychology of childhood or on studies of exceptional children.

## THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

The total circulation through the branch libraries and the Central Branch Department for the year was 3,551,328. This is a gain of 192,361 over last year.

This total branch circulation was made up of the following items: 3,003,391 books were issued for home use direct from the branches; 452,468 books were issued to schools and various institutions partly from collections of the branches (217,061) and partly from the Branch Deposit Collection in the Central Library (235,407); and finally, in response to calls from the public at the various branches, 95,469 books were issued from the Central Library through the branches — 78,320 from the Deposit Collection and 17,149 from the stacks of the Central Library.

Of the 3,003,391 volumes drawn out for home-use direct from the branches, 1,303,408 were for adults and 1,699,983 for juveniles. Among the books for adults there were 1,000,443 volumes of fiction and 302,965 of non-fiction; among the books for juveniles there were 1,158,952 volumes of fiction and 541,031 of non-fiction.

The number of volumes sent on deposit from the Central Branch collection to 364 agencies was 85,237. Among these agencies are 31 branches, 55 engine houses, 10 high schools, 212 grammar schools, 17 parochial schools and 49 other institutions of various kinds. To the 239 schools 61,231 volumes were sent in all. Last year the number of agencies was 326 and the number of volumes sent on deposit, 93,269; to 232 schools 66,037 books were sent in 1927.

Besides books, 40,753 pictures were sent to schools. The inter-library loans amounted to 2,215 volumes: 1,847 books to libraries in Massachusetts and 368 to libraries outside of the state. In all, 1,858 applications were received, of which 646 had to be refused.

Twenty-eight of the branches gained in circulation. The greatest gains were at Mattapan, Uphams Corner, Boylston Station, Andrew Square, East Boston, South Boston, Faneuil and Roslindale. The largest circulation reached at a Branch was 183,887 and the lowest, 38,428.

Important improvements have been made during the year at the Boylston Station and City Point Branches. At the former a well equipped and very pleasant children's room has been added which has greatly strengthened the work with children, and at the latter the adult readers, formerly crowded out by the children, have now a quiet and comfortable room. As a result the circulation of books to adults has increased at both places; at Boylston Station the increase amounted to 1,118. What is of greater importance, there has been an improvement both in the orderliness and in the quality of reference work in both of these libraries. There have been also a number of minor improvements in the other branches, by way of refinishing of shelving, tables and chairs and the replacing of worn floor covering. At the Brighton Branch new plumbing has been installed and at the East Boston Branch an attractive iron fence has been erected around the little front yard.

Twenty-one of the thirty-one branch library buildings are now in satisfactory condition. At ten the conditions leave much to be desired. More space is needed at the branches at Andrew Square, Codman Square, Jeffries Point, Mattapan, Mt. Bowdoin, Neponset, Orient Heights, Parker Hill, Roslindale and South Boston. At several of these places the Library should have its own building.

#### THE LIBRARY TRAINING CLASS

The first year of the Training Class, organized in October, 1927, ended in the middle of June, 1928.

Fourteen students were enrolled. They were divided into two groups: the first group, with four students, gave full time to the course and graduated in June, 1928; the second group, with ten students (two of whom were young men) devoted half-time to the course and will graduate in June, 1929. The members of this second group are on the staff of the Library. Selected by the heads of their departments as capable of enlarged usefulness, they were allowed to devote to training ten hours of library time each week.

The full-time students completed the following courses: reference work, children's literature, library economy, book selection,



classification, and cataloguing. The part-time students completed the first three courses, leaving the last three for the second year.

The classes in reference work were held twice a week for the eight months. About 275 reference books were examined and discussed. The aim of the course in library economy, held once a week, was to acquaint the class with the resources of the Library, and with some of the problems of Library administration. The development of children's books from the earliest times to the present day was studied. In the course of book selection talks were given on reviews and annotations, and on publishers and their special texts and editions: also visits were made to downtown book-stores. Classification was studied during the first half year. Classes were held twice a week, followed by an hour and a half of actual practice. As a working basis the Decimal Classification of Melvil Dewey was used. The origin of the system in use in this Library was explained in special talks. In the course of cataloguing the method used in the Library of Congress was taught, simplified in the matter of minor details.

Another important feature of the training was the practical work. To this the full-time students devoted five afternoons a week throughout the eight months, and the part-time students, already more experienced in library work, five hours a week. In the early fall each member of the class was assigned to one of the branches, where a better idea of library work as a whole can be obtained because of the smaller size of the place and the more general nature of the service. Afterwards there was a general shift every three weeks, and each student was sent to a different department in the Library. As a result, it is possible to determine to which phase of library work the new assistants are best suited. Of the four full-time students who graduated from the course in June, 1928, one is now working in a branch and the other three in the Central Library.

The course in children's literature was conducted by Miss Alice M. Jordan, who is also chairman of the Library Training Class Committee. The other courses were conducted by Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell, the Supervisor, who was assisted by additional talks on various subjects by members of the Library staff.

Also persons not connected with the Library gave occasional lectures.

#### READERS' ADVISER.

The Library's interest in adult education continues unabated and has led to the establishment of the service of a Readers' Adviser. Miss Laura R. Gibbs is in charge of this service, and has been on duty ten hours a week since February 20 in an office on the ground floor near the elevator. During this period, she has been sought by 417 persons, 81 of whom have started definite courses of reading under direction. Twenty-one of these courses have been completed, 10 are still in process, 13 are in abeyance for the time being, 3 were referred to another department, and 36 were dropped unfinished; 5 of the readers who dropped out returned to school or college where their time was fully occupied. Numerous lists of books varying in length from ten to thirty titles have been made and sent from the office, and many visitors have received suggestions for reading, often amounting to a list of twenty or more titles. Some 50 applicants have been advised regarding schools or courses where they might find the courses of which they were in search. Numerous inquiries about this work have been received and the Readers' Adviser has frequently been asked to give informal addresses on the subject before various interested groups.

Of the Library's publication "Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston" an account has been given in another section of this Report.

#### LECTURES — CONCERTS — EXHIBITIONS.

The Lecture Course, now in its thirtieth season, is given on Thursday evenings, Sunday afternoons and Sunday evenings, from the beginning of October to the end of April, with numerous lectures or concerts on other days of the week.

During the year there were given in the Lecture Hall 106 free lectures and entertainments under the auspices of the Library, the Drama League, the Field and Forest Club, the Ruskin Club, and other organizations. The subjects of the lectures, 71 in number, may be classified as follows: travel, 26; literature, 11;



drama, 9; music, 8; history, 6; art, 4; miscellaneous, 7. The greater number have been illustrated with lantern slides or moving pictures, which have recently been made available through the installation of an excellent projector in connection with the remodeling of the Lecture Hall. There have been 35 concerts and recitals, of which 6 were provided through the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation.

The Lecture Hall has continued to be used by the Division of University Extension of the State Department of Education. The noise and confusion incident to the reconstruction of the North Gallery, which is immediately over the Lecture Hall, will prevent the day-time use of the Hall during the coming season.

The usual Lectures on the Concerts of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and shorter courses in connection with the opera seasons of the year, were offered by the Massachusetts Division of University Extension in collaboration with the Library. They were under the supervision of Richard G. Appel of the Library staff, who has had the generous coöperation of other musicians.

Twenty-seven exhibitions have been arranged during the year in the Exhibition Room. These included two on aviation, for which the material was lent in the first case by the Guggenheim Foundation and in the second by Miss H. M. Murdoch. Designs for various competitions sponsored by the House Beautiful Publishing Company occupied the Room on three occasions. There was a similar exhibit for "Be Kind to Animals Week"; at another time the original work done by pupils in the public schools of Boston was shown; the American Institute of Graphic Arts lent the "Fifty Books of the Year" and also material for an exhibit of "American Book Illustration." Mr. Henry T. Porter lent a collection of autographed portraits of musicians. Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson, examples of recent European and American printing; and Mr. Wilbur Macey Stone of New York City, his unique collection of rare and old children's books. Many of these exhibitions were supplemented by material from the Division of Fine Arts. In April, the medieval manuscripts of the Library were placed on view, and on other occasions interesting editions of the Bible, works of the Merrymount Press, and fine bindings were shown.

For a complete list of the lectures, concerts, and exhibitions see Appendix, pp. 73-79.

#### THE BINDERY.

The work done in the Bindery has been greater than in any previous year. The number of bound volumes was 71,963 as against 68,313, and the total of miscellaneous work done amounted to 128,018 items as against 88,997 in 1927.

With the growth of the Library's activities, the demands on the Bindery are naturally increasing. It is a source of satisfaction that the Bindery is able to keep abreast with the current work of the Library. With some new machinery and using the working force to its best advantage, the Bindery is doing now more than double the work it did some years ago — when the personnel was actually larger. More than that cannot be expected.

As matters stand, however, much important work of the Special Libraries, particularly of the Barton-Ticknor Division, remains undone. There are hundreds of old books and as many old maps which should be rebound or reinforced — a slow and meticulous work which can be taken care of only through special provision.

#### MECHANICAL AND OTHER REPAIRS.

Much has been accomplished, as I said earlier in the report, toward "putting our house in order."

In the Central Library, particularly, the repairs were going on inside and outside of the building during the whole year. The repointing and replacing of the roof tiling was completed. About one-half of the condensation roof has been repaired or replaced and the remainder will be given attention next year. Two large sky-lights were replaced; the ridge cresting was furnished with new supports of brass. A sprinkler system was installed in practically the entire basement, in all elevator and air shafts. The Printing and Bindery Departments were equipped with a thermostat system of fire protection. The necessary sections of wall of the building were provided with a "water curtain." The re-wiring of the building has been all but completed. New lighting fixtures have been installed in the Division of Fine Arts and

the West Gallery, in the Issue and Registration Departments, and in the Newspaper and Patent Rooms. The book-stacks and the entire basement have been similarly equipped with new lighting fixtures. The general illumination and the stage lighting effects in the Lecture Hall have been improved.

During the year 465,000 kilowatts of electricity were generated, an increase of 15,000 kilowatts over the previous year. The electrical output has now reached the point where it is necessary to run two engines to carry the normal load. The general overhauling of the heating system has resulted in a saving of fuel. Many of the supply and return pipes buried away in the masonry construction are constantly breaking and it requires much labor to replace them. The coal burned during the year was 1,732 tons, a reduction of 167 tons from the quantity of coal used in 1927. The increase in electrical consumption may be contrasted with satisfaction with the decrease in coal consumption.

A few other improvements may be mentioned. The Lecture Hall has been furnished with new seats and provided with a moving picture booth and equipment; also a new screen and stage curtain have been added and the acoustical draperies have been changed. In sections of the Entrance Hall and in parts of the Delivery Room new marble blocks have been laid. The furnaces were rebuilt under the boilers and new arch protectors were installed; also a coal conveyor was added to the boiler-room equipment. All the book stacks in the Central Library have been repainted. In several of the branches — at Lower Mills, South Boston, Mt. Pleasant, Boylston, Charlestown and City Point — the furniture has been refinished. In other branches new shelving has been installed.

The repairs of the condensation roof, marble floors, arch vaulting in basement, etc. will be continued next year.

#### RETIREMENTS.

During the year the following persons retired under the Boston Retirement Act: *Ordering Department*: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief, (retired February 29, voluntary), entered service June 24, 1889; *Engineer and Janitor Department*: Julia Connor, cleaner, (retired February 29, voluntary), entered service Janu-

ary 9, 1909; *Branch Department*: Ida G. Denney, assistant, (retired July 31, voluntary), entered service July 21, 1902; *Engineer and Janitor Department*: Minnie Otto, cleaner, (retired September 30, disability), entered service in September 1897; *Statistical Department*: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief, (retired October 31), entered service July 23, 1900.

#### CONCLUSION.

A library is not merely a collection of books. It is an organization in which it is the duty of specially appointed persons to help the public to get the desired books or information. This human element is a most important factor in all library administration. A library may be the richest in its resources and still fail because of the inadequacy of its service.

The Director earnestly solicits reports of dissatisfaction with the service of the Library or of failure to obtain the desired information. It should be remembered, however, that inquiries requiring special knowledge should be made to chiefs of departments, branch librarians or major assistants, many of whom have been long in the service and know the resources of the system, rather than to minor assistants. Inquiries by telephone at the Central Library or at the branches are also welcome. If questions are asked which do not fall within the province of the service of the Library, the inquirer will be directed, when possible, to the proper source of information.

It is my privilege to record my continued appreciation of the loyal coöperation of the Library Staff — in minor as well as major positions. To Frank H. Chase, Reference Librarian, I wish to extend my particular acknowledgment. To the faithful and efficient service of the members of the Staff in all departments is due the credit for the successful operation of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Director*



## APPENDIX.

TABLE OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

Central Library	1923-24	1924-25	1925*	1926	1927	1928
	576,997	623,024	608,852	644,896	657,977	678,834
BRANCHES:						
Allston . . .	57,705	60,358	63,434	74,297	81,984	86,960
Andrew Square . . .	51,991	68,196	68,772	89,662	92,926	104,563
Boylston Station . . .	62,340	64,871	64,559	71,261	68,196	81,405
Brighton . . .	87,672	92,702	89,384	101,286	98,907	96,586
Charlestown . . .	99,035	98,433	95,288	107,562	110,069	105,659
City Point . . .	43,277	47,441	50,108	51,154	54,232	56,686
Codman Square . . .	113,529	114,950	119,758	145,001	156,559	157,498
Dorchester . . .	75,608	88,628	90,123	100,188	101,957	109,553
East Boston . . .	125,968	128,771	125,820	138,691	140,379	151,099
Faneuil . . .	27,004	30,443	31,560	43,782	50,212	60,143
Fellowes Athen. . .	71,673	76,007	84,765	85,151	89,479	91,463
Hyde Park . . .	89,716	95,334	93,582	98,147	107,168	110,679
Jamaica Plain . . .	64,022	68,630	67,232	73,117	85,262	86,398
Jeffries Point . . .	40,857	52,020	53,004	58,218	61,893	63,185
Lower Mills . . .	25,801	27,259	25,488	32,274	35,835	38,428
Mattapan . . .	27,699	48,789	58,290	69,364	95,085	124,374
Memorial . . .	122,159	136,981	135,913	147,263	171,034	178,142
Mount Bowdoin . . .	98,961	107,679	112,320	125,907	129,487	132,424
Mount Pleasant . . .	52,977	53,953	53,778	59,101	66,315	72,367
Neponset . . .	40,353	41,466	39,479	43,349	48,331	48,639
North End . . .	107,329	117,075	121,651	137,896	143,381	146,616
Orient Heights . . .	30,580	40,605	45,395	58,913	55,625	49,915
Parker Hill . . .	44,081	37,038	39,860	43,719	45,862	51,412
Roslindale . . .	89,336	94,888	93,154	105,074	113,150	122,260
Roxbury Crossing . . .	57,869	67,143	58,634	62,462	77,770	78,269
South Boston . . .	139,173	152,799	148,751	169,625	170,911	181,376
South End . . .	111,682	117,845	112,578	118,315	116,226	117,982
Tyler Street . . .	42,270	37,321	37,436	43,421	39,868	42,875
Uphams Corner . . .	109,731	95,975	100,288	126,010	152,140	171,260
West End . . .	154,267	157,321	152,043	169,142	175,583	183,887
West Roxbury . . .	81,199	88,249	88,482	104,889	111,754	119,249
Total . . .	2,922,861	3,132,194	3,129,781	3,499,137	3,705,657	3,899,286

\* A period of eleven months.



The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year . . . . .	209,333
1925* loss from preceding year . . . . .	12,413
1926† gain over preceding year (of 11 months) . . . . .	369,356
1927 gain over preceding year . . . . .	306,520
1928 gain over preceding year . . . . .	193,629

### USE OF BOOKS.

#### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
January, 1928 . . . . .	34,941	9,607	24,230	68,778
February " . . . . .	34,646	9,386	24,330	68,362
March " . . . . .	36,433	10,298	25,805	72,536
April " . . . . .	31,365	8,231	26,035	65,631
May " . . . . .	29,278	8,247	29,525	67,050
June " . . . . .	21,083	6,673	15,775	43,531
July " . . . . .	22,199	5,470	6,497	34,166
August " . . . . .	19,511	5,604	6,175	31,290
September " . . . . .	21,975	6,009	8,575	36,559
October " . . . . .	31,947	8,524	16,965	57,436
November " . . . . .	32,934	8,801	25,365	67,100
December " . . . . .	31,646	8,619	26,130	66,395
Totals . . . . .	347,958	95,469	235,407	678,834

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTALS.
CENTRAL LIBRARY:			
a. Direct . . . . .	347,958		
b. Through Branches			
1. Deposit Collection . . . . .	78,320		
2. General Collections . . . . .	17,149		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		235,407	678,834
BRANCHES:			
Allston . . . . .	86,960		86,960
Andrew Square . . . . .	104,563		104,563
Boylston Station . . . . .	81,405		81,405
Brighton . . . . .	75,968	20,618	96,586
Charlestown . . . . .	97,684	7,975	105,659
Carried forward . . . . .	446,580	28,593	475,173

\*Eleven month period.

†Gain over an approximation of preceding twelve months 233,279.

<i>Brought forward</i>	446,580	28,593	475,173
City Point	56,686		56,686
Codman Square	147,217	10,281	157,498
Dorchester	99,999	9,554	109,553
East Boston	131,862	19,237	151,099
Faneuil	60,143		60,143
Fellowes Athenæum	72,679	18,784	91,463
Hyde Park	99,254	11,425	110,679
Jamaica Plain	78,187	8,211	86,398
Jeffries Point	63,185		63,185
Lower Mills	38,428		38,428
Mattapan	124,374		124,374
Memorial	175,376	2,766	178,142
Mount Bowdoin	128,118	4,306	132,424
Mount Pleasant	72,367		72,367
Neponset	48,639		48,639
North End	144,910	1,706	146,616
Orient Heights	49,015		49,015
Parker Hill	51,412		51,412
Roslindale	111,827	10,433	122,260
Roxbury Crossing	78,269		78,269
South Boston	156,051	25,325	181,376
South End	101,921	16,061	117,982
Tyler Street	42,875		42,875
Upham's Corner	170,870	390	171,260
West End	155,902	27,985	183,887
West Roxbury	97,245	22,004	119,249
	<u>3,003,391</u>	<u>217,061</u>	<u>3,220,452</u>

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through  
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches)	678,834
From branches (excluding books received from Central Library)	<u>3,220,452</u>
Total	3,899,286

COMPARATIVE.	1927.	1928.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions).		
Direct home use	346,690	347,958
Through branches	<u>99,070</u>	<u>95,469</u>
	445,760	443,427
Branch Libraries circulation (excluding schools and institutions).	2,810,741	3,003,391
Schools and institutions circulation (including books from Central through the Branch system)	<u>449,156</u>	<u>452,468</u>
	3,705,657	3,899,286

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1927	1928
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,723	1,847
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	264	368
Total . . . . .	1,987	2,215
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	478	540
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	104	106
Total . . . . .	582	646
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	24	33

The classified direct circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1927		1928	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	901,688	32	1,000,443	33
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	273,932	10	302,963	10
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	1,107,625	39	1,158,952	39
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	527,496	19	541,031	18

At the Central Library the classified direct circulation shows the following percentages:

	1927.	1928.
	PERCENTAGE.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction . . . . .	47.7	48.3
Non-fiction . . . . .	52.3	51.7

#### BOOK ACCESSIONS.

##### BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1927.	1928.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	9,870	10,526
From trust funds income . . . . .	2,688	3,301
	12,558	13,827
For branches:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	66,424	62,565
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,289	1,041
	69,713	63,606
Totals . . . . .	82,271	77,433

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase . . . . .	13,827	63,606	77,433
Accessions by gift . . . . .	12,825	1,606	14,431
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	101	. . . .	101
Accessions by periodicals bound . . . . .	2,013	21	2,034
Accessions by newspapers bound . . . . .	162	. . . .	162
Accessions by serials bound . . . . .	2,002	. . . .	2,002
Totals . . . . .	30,930	65,233	96,163

### THE CATALOGUE.

	1927.		1928.	
	VOLS AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):				
General collection, new books, (including continuations) . . . . .				27,133
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	25,811	15,932	27,544	17,552
Serials . . . . .	6,697	. . . .	6,827	. . . .
Branches . . . . .	67,602	57,543	58,718	52,446
Recatalogued . . . . .	15,337	8,261	15,383	8,169
Totals . . . . .	115,447	81,736	108,472	78,167

### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is:

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:	
Special collections, new books and transfers . . . . .	2,791
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc. . . . .	1,651
	31,575
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:	
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .	14,273
Net gain at Central Library . . . . .	17,302
Net gain at Branches . . . . .	7,011
Net gain entire library system . . . . .	24,313

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1856-57 . . . . .	34,896
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1857-58 . . . . .	70,851
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1858-59 . . . . .	78,043
1855-56 . . . . .	28,080	1859-60 . . . . .	85,031

1860-61 . . . . .	97,386	1895 . . . . .	628,297
1861-62 . . . . .	105,034	1896-97 . . . . .	663,763
1862-63 . . . . .	110,563	1897-98 . . . . .	698,888
1863-64 . . . . .	116,934	1898-99 . . . . .	716,050
1864-65 . . . . .	123,016	1899-1900 . . . . .	746,383
1865-66 . . . . .	130,678	1900-01 . . . . .	781,377
1866-67 . . . . .	136,080	1901-02 . . . . .	812,264
1867-68 . . . . .	144,092	1902-03 . . . . .	835,904
1868-69 . . . . .	152,796	1903-04 . . . . .	848,884
1869-70 . . . . .	160,573	1904-05 . . . . .	871,050
1870-71 . . . . .	179,250	1905-06 . . . . .	878,933
1871-72 . . . . .	192,958	1906-07 . . . . .	903,349
1872-73 . . . . .	209,456	1907-08 . . . . .	922,348
1873-74 . . . . .	260,550	1908-09 . . . . .	941,024
1874-75 . . . . .	276,918	1909-10 . . . . .	961,522
1875-76 . . . . .	297,873	1910-11 . . . . .	987,268
1876-77 . . . . .	321,010	1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717
1877-78 . . . . .	345,734	1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011
1878-79 . . . . .	360,963	1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103
1879-80 . . . . .	377,225	1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702
1880-81 . . . . .	390,982	1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747
1881-82 . . . . .	404,221	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1882-83 . . . . .	422,116	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1883-84 . . . . .	438,594	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1884-85 . . . . .	453,947	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1885 . . . . .	460,993	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1886 . . . . .	479,421	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211
1887 . . . . .	492,956	1922-23 . . . . .	1,284,094
1888 . . . . .	505,872	1923-24 . . . . .	1,308,041
1889 . . . . .	520,508	1924-25 . . . . .	1,333,264
1890 . . . . .	536,027	1925 . . . . .	1,363,515
1891 . . . . .	556,283	1926 . . . . .	1,388,439
1892 . . . . .	576,237	1927 . . . . .	1,418,489
1893 . . . . .	597,152	1928 . . . . .	1,442,802
1894 . . . . .	610,375		
Volumes in entire library system . . . . .			1,442,802
Volumes in the branches . . . . .			398,136

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	1,044,666	Mattapan . . . . .	8,376
Allston . . . . .	7,301	Memorial . . . . .	13,579
Andrew Square . . . . .	6,887	Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	9,933
Boylston Station . . . . .	7,165	Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	6,366
Brighton . . . . .	19,500	Neponset . . . . .	5,494
Charlestown . . . . .	15,503	North End . . . . .	11,999
City Point . . . . .	10,176	Orient Heights . . . . .	5,385
Codman Square . . . . .	12,621	Parker Hill . . . . .	5,820
Dorchester . . . . .	12,843	Roslindale . . . . .	12,145
East Boston . . . . .	21,400	Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	6,972
Faneuil . . . . .	7,510	South Boston . . . . .	21,109
Fellowes Athenaeum . . . . .	37,998	South End . . . . .	14,424
Hyde Park . . . . .	30,596	Tyler Street . . . . .	6,336
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	17,648	Upham's Corner . . . . .	13,559
Jeffries Point . . . . .	5,089	West End . . . . .	21,661
Lower Mills . . . . .	4,644	West Roxbury . . . . .	18,097



## THE BINDERY.

	1927.	1928.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	68,313	71,963
Magazines stitched . . . . .	201	225
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,036	1,810
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,684	1,895
Maps mounted . . . . .	41	287
Photographs and engravings, etc. mounted . . . . .	3,044	7,087
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	88,997	106,993

## THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1927.	1928.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	203	207
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	4,050	8,856
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	65,417	135,137
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department) . . . . .	480	296
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	32,160	21,768
Signs . . . . .	283	217
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,127,019	3,478,578
Forms, circulars, and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	46,317	53,960
Catalogues, pamphlets, and bibliographical programmes . . . . .	43,695	54,568

## THE LECTURES OF 1928.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

- Jan. 5. Long Wharf and the Old Boston Waterfront; History and Reminiscences. Gilbert R. Payson.
- Jan. 8. \*Symbolism in Modern Drama. Robert E. Rogers, A. M. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 8. \*Intersettlement Concert by pupils from the Music School Settlements.
- Jan. 9. \*The Making of a Ruskin Collection. Charles E. Goodspeed. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 12. The Lure of New England. Percy A. Brigham. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 14. Northern Italy and the Dolomites. Rev. A. E. Worman.
- Jan. 15. \*Legends and Folk Songs of Finland. Aino Saari. Musical illustrations.
- Jan. 15. \*Song Recital. Elsie Winsor Bird, Soprano.
- Jan. 19. The Life and Art of Edgar Allan Poe. Joseph Lorraine.
- Jan. 19. Flemish and Dutch Art: a comparison and valuation. Adriaan M. DeGroot.

- Jan. 22. \*Concert. Choral Society of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs.
- Jan. 22. \*Modern Piano Music of the French, Russian and English Schools. Elizabeth Siedoff. Lecture-piano recital.
- Jan. 23. \*The Witch of Salem: Cadman's New American Opera. Grace May Statsman. Musical illustrations. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 26. Evangeline Country at Apple-blossom Time. Edwin A. Freeman.
- Jan. 29. \*The Educational Value of Play Producing in Schools. Marie Ware Laughton, Director, The Out-Door Players.
- Jan. 29. \*Concert. Hart House String Quartet of Toronto. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Feb. 2. Nature's Mysteries. Dan McCowan. (Contributed by the Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington, D. C.)
- Feb. 5. \*Russian Music. Dr. John P. Marshall.
- Feb. 5. \*Concert. The Players of Concerted Music.
- Feb. 9. The English Lake Country and its Poets. Olive C. Grigor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 12. \*Our Social Comedies. Mrs. Carl L. Schrader, President, Drama League of Boston. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 12. \*Concert. Burgin and Durrell String Quartets of Boston. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Feb. 13. \*The Observance of John Ruskin's Birthday, February 8, 1818. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 16. Unknown Newfoundland. Robert H. Tait. (Contributed by the Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington, D. C.)
- Feb. 19. \*The Odes of the Roman Poet Horace, in musical settings, ancient and modern. W. B. McDaniel, II, A. M.
- Feb. 19. \*Intersettlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School Settlements.
- Feb. 23. Gainsborough, Painter of Beautiful Women, 1727-1927. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Feb. 26. \*Authors and Wives, Face to Face. John E. Pember.
- Feb. 26. \*Concert. Gertrude Ehrhart, soprano, Carmela Ippolito, violin, and Nicolas Slonimsky, piano.
- Feb. 27. \*The Purpose of Literature. Prof. Earl. Augustus Aldrich. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 1. Picturesque Germany. John G. Bucher. (Contributed
- Mar. 4. \*Negro Writers and Composers. Recital. Dorothy Richardson, contralto, Eleanor Trent Wallace, reader, and Dorothy Wood, accompanist,

- Mar. 4. \*Concert. Boston Civic Symphony Orchestra. Joseph F. Wagner, Conductor.
- Mar. 8. Mountain and Woodland Trails. Frank H. Sprague. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 11. Folk Plays: the Foundation of Modern American Drama. Albert Hatton Gilmer, A. M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 11. \*Concert. New York String Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Mar. 12. \*Ruskin's Country. Mrs. Herbert J. Gurney. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 15. \*Varied Program. The Strolling Players. Helene Martha Boll, Director.
- Mar. 18. \*Concert. Orchestra of the Lincoln House Association. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- Mar. 18. \*Inter settlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School Settlements.
- Mar. 22. Pilgrim Land and Old New England Whaling. Rev. George T. Plummer.
- Mar. 25. \*Music of the Church, the Home, and the Nation. Mme Beale Morey. Vocal and Instrumental illustrations.
- Mar. 26. The Beauties of Switzerland. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 29. General Allenby's Palestine Campaign. Lieut. Col. Girard L. McEntee.
- Apr. 1. \*The Shortest Trail to Bird Acquaintance, by Way of Song and Call. Lester W. Smith.
- Apr. 1. \*Concert. The Pierian Sodality Orchestra of Harvard University. Nicolas Slonimsky, Conductor.
- Apr. 5. Spain, the Land of History and Romance. Ellen E. Page.
- Apr. 8. \*Reminiscences of Famous Shakesperian Actors. Helen Adelaide Shaw.
- Apr. 8. \*Concert. Lenox String Quartet of New York. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Apr. 9. A New Experiment in Balancing Education. Arthur W. Gilbert, Ph.D. Mlle Berthe Hébert, soloist. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 12. Robert Burns. Charles S. Olcott.
- Apr. 14. \*Piano Recital for Young People. Persis Cox.
- Apr. 15. \*Platform arrangement of Cyrano de Bergerac, by Edmond Rostand. Edward Abner Thompson, A. M.
- Apr. 15. \*Inter settlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School Settlements.
- Apr. 22. \*The Modern Church Music Renaissance. Carl F. Pfat- teicher, Th. D. Musical illustrations.
- Apr. 23. \*Goya. Ellen E. Page. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 26. From London to Land's End. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes.

- Apr. 29. \*Concert. Leonora Choral Society of Bradford Academy.  
Frederick Johnson, Conductor.
- May 3. Home Life in Japan. Marguerite Rand.
- May 6. The New Art of Mobile Color. G. A. Shook. Color  
Organ and Musical illustrations.
- May 6. \*Concert. Rosé String Quartet of Vienna. (Under the  
auspices of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.,  
Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation.)
- Oct. 4. Bermuda, the Ocean Playground. Marguerite Rand.
- Oct. 7. \*Educational Opportunities for Adults in Greater Boston.  
Harry E. Gardner, Department of Education.
- Oct. 7. \*Concert. Choral Art Society. Gertrude Walker-Crowley,  
Conductor.
- Oct. 8. \*Reminiscences of Great Actors. Helen Adelaide Shaw.  
Music by Alice Wentworth MacGregor. (Ruskin  
Club.)
- Oct. 11. The National Parks of the United States and Canada.  
Arthur H. Merritt.
- Oct. 14. \*The Playgoer Abroad. Maude W. Schrader, President  
of the Drama League of Boston. (Drama League  
of Boston. (Drama League Course.)
- Oct. 14. \*The Polish Chorus "Lira" of Boston. Anthony Nurczyn-  
ski, Conductor.
- Oct. 18. A Tale of the Ancient Whalemén. Chester S. Howland.
- Oct. 21. The Evolution of the U. S. Flag. Illustrated with flags  
famous in American History. Col. Harrison S. Ker-  
rick, Coast Artillery Corps, U. S. A.
- Oct. 21. \*Operatic and Ballad Recital. Mme Alice Baschi and  
assisting artists.
- Oct. 22. \*Ruskin as a Social Reformer. Rev. Joseph P. Mac-  
Carthy, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 25. Northern Spain. Rev. Alwin E. Worman.
- Oct. 28. \*The Folk Lore of Hallowe'en. Christine von K. Wade.
- Oct. 28. \*The Music of the West Indies. Byron W. Reed.
- Nov. 1. Whales, Totem Poles and Indians. L. O. Armstrong.  
(Field and Forest Club Course. Contributed by the  
Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington, D.C.)
- Nov. 4. \*The Pilgrim's Progress: A Study in Literary Immortality.  
John Livingston Lowes.
- Nov. 8. The Glory of the Italian Cities. Henry J. Kilbourn, D.D.
- Nov. 11. \*A Schubert Program; for Young People of All Ages.  
Persis Cox.
- Nov. 11. \*Concert. Letz String Quartet. (Under the auspices of  
the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., Elizabeth  
Sprague Coolidge Foundation.)

- Nov. 15. Another U. S. A.: The Union of South Africa. John C. Bowker, M. D.
- Nov. 18. \*Dolly Madison. Dramatic reading. In costume of the period. Isabella Taylor.
- Nov. 18. \*A Schubert Centenary Program. Catherine Smith Bailey.
- Nov. 19. Japan. Andrew Oliver, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 22. Red Letter Days in Spanish Cities. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.
- Nov. 24. \*The Aims, Ideals, and Future of American Opera. Vladimir Rosing and assisting artists. (American Opera Company.)
- Nov. 25. \*Ye Old Tyme Thanksgiving Dayes and Wayes. Francis Henry Wade, M.D., Ph.D.
- Nov. 25. \*Folk Songs. (In costume.) Berthe Hébert, Contralto.
- Nov. 26. \*Home and School Responsibilities in the Time of John Ruskin and the Present. Arthur B. Lord, A.B. Supervisor of Special Schools and Classes, Massachusetts Department of Education. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 30. The Visual Art of the Theatre. Walter Prichard Eaton.
- Dec. 2. \*Literature at Woodchuck Lodge. Dallas Lore Sharp.
- Dec. 2. \*Concert. Burgin String Quartet. (Under the auspices of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation.)
- Dec. 6. The Experiences of a Press Photographer. Alton Hall Blackinton of the Boston Herald.
- Dec. 9. \*Marie Ware Laughton, Director of The Out-Door Players, presenting a group of players in scenes from plays, and a pantomime.
- Dec. 9. \*The Play, from Author to Production. E. E. Clive, Director of The Copley Theatre Players.
- Dec. 10. \*John Ruskin Still Speaking. Jessie D. Hodder, Superintendent of the Massachusetts Reformatory for Women. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 13. Casual Pages from a Travel Diary: The Rhine, Chamonix, The French Pyrenees. Olive C. Grigor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 16. \*Our Philippine Neighbors. Crayon Lecture. José M. Castillo.
- Dec. 16. \*Chamber Concert. Jane Leland Clark and assisting artists.
- Dec. 17. Judea and Jerusalem. Harriet-Everard Johnson, A.B., S.T.B., Dean, Tuckerman School of Religious Education. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 20. Holland Humoresques: a personal Holland illustrated and costumed. Alice Howland Macomber.



- Dec. 23. Dickens' "Christmas Carol." Edward F. Payne, President, Boston Branch of the Dickens Fellowship.
- Dec. 23. \*Famous Hymns and How to Sing Them. Rosabelle Temple.
- Dec. 27. Travel Talk on Peru. Arthur L. Sweetser.
- Dec. 30. \*Folk Song Recital, in costume: a comparative study of folk songs from the British Isles, Russia, France and America. Claramond Thompson, Contralto.
- Dec. 30. \*Gay Head Indian legends and traditions. With Indian Songs. Nannetta Vanderhoop Madison, assisted by other Indians.

## PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS. 1928.

## In Exhibition Room.

Installation  
date

- Jan. 9. Aviation: Material lent by the Guggenheim Foundation; Model of the East Boston Airport.
- Jan. 23. Designs submitted in the Small House Competition, sponsored by the House Beautiful Publishing Company. recent acquisition to the Fine Arts collection; Material showing the history of book illustration.
- Feb. 6. Plates from "Pieter Brueghel the Elder", by Dvorak, a recent acquisition to the Fine Arts collection; Material showing the history of book illustration.
- Feb. 13. "Creative Design": original work by pupils of the public schools of Boston, shown in connection with the meeting of the National Education Association.
- Mar. 6. "Research for Ornamentation in the Boston Public Library": original designs and batik work by William Wallace Garland; Selected design material from the Division of Fine Arts.
- Mar. 26. Posters submitted by school children in Massachusetts in a "Thrift Poster" competition sponsored by the Savings Bank Association of Massachusetts.
- Apr. 8. Mediaeval manuscripts from the Library collection; Alcott photographs of the Burns country; Framed sketches of the Zion Library, Brookline.
- Apr. 16. "Be Kind to Animals Week": Posters submitted by school children in contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- Apr. 23. Posters submitted in Cover Design Competition of the House Beautiful Publishing Company.
- May 7. Selected examples of the work of Mr. Thomas M. Cleland, illustrator, sponsored by the Society of Printers; Se-

- lected books printed by the Merrymount Press, from the Library collection.
- May 21. Autographed portraits of musicians, from the collection of Mr. Henry Y. Porter; Plates from L. O. Burnacini's collection of designs for theatrical costume — from the Division of Fine Arts.
- June 4. Photographs of the Arnold Arboretum; Views of parks in and around Boston, from the collection in the Division of Fine Arts.
- June 7. Photographs from "Ramona", from the photoplay now showing in Boston.
- June 26. Plates from "American Yachts", by Frederick Cozzens, recently acquired by the Library.
- July 2. "Advancing Aviation"; Photographs taken by Miss H. M. Murdoch, F.R.P.S.; Airplane models lent by boys of Greater Boston.
- July 22. Illuminated manuscripts; Medici Prints; Mountain views; Interesting editions of the Bible; Fine bindings.
- Sept. 23. "Fifty Books of the Year", lent by the American Institute of Graphic Arts.
- Oct. 1. "American Book Illustration", lent by the American Institute of Graphic Arts; Prints from the collection of the Division of Fine Arts.
- Oct. 21. "Color and Modernism in Printing" — examples of recent European and American work, lent by Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.
- Nov. 10. John Bunyan Tercentenary Exhibition; "Four Hundred Years of Children's Books.
- Dec. 29. "Small Houses": Material from competition of the House Beautiful Publishing Company, supplemented by books from the Division of Fine Arts.

#### SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

- Adams, Edward Dean, New York City. Henry Admas of Somersetshire, England and Braintree, Massachusetts. His English ancestry and some of his descendants. Compiled by J. Gardner Bartlett for Edward Dean Adams. Privately printed. New York, 1927.
- Adams, Randolph G., Librarian, William L. Clements Library. Ann Arbor, Michigan. The papers of Lord George Germain. A brief description of the Stopford-Sackville papers now in the William L. Clements Library. By Randolph G. Adams. Ann Arbor, 1928.
- Benjamin Franklin's Proposals for the education of youth in Pennsylvania, 1749. By Randolph G. Adams. Ann Arbor, 1927.
- Beggs, Mrs. Robert H., Denver, Colorado. The Book o' Beggs. A genealogical study of the Beggs family in America, also gleanings

- concerning this ancient Gaelic family of Beg-Begg-Beig-Begge-Beggs. By Robert Henry Beggs and Clara Beardsley Beggs. (Denver, 1928.)
- The Boston Browning Society. The ring and the book, by Robert Browning. Walter Hampden Edition. New York, 1927.
- Scrittori Italiani e stranieri, poesia: Dramatis personae e altri poemi, 1924.
- Uomini e donne e poemi varii, 1922.
- Paracelso, 1916, di Roberto Browning. Traduzione di L. Pellegrini. Lanciano. (For the Browning Collection.)
- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. Life and I. An autobiography of humanity, by Gamaliel Bradford, Boston, 1928.
- Carbonell y Rivero, José Manuel, President, Academia Nacional de Artes y Letras, Habana, Cuba. Twenty-eight volumes of Cuban works, including *Evolución de la cultura Cubana, 1608-1927*. Recopilación dirigida por José Manuel Carbonell y Rivero. 18 volumes. Habana. 1928. (Edición oficial.) (To commemorate the celebration of the Sixth International American Conference in the Capital of Cuba.)
- Childs, Mrs. Arthur E. A group of 108 books including *The American cyclopaedia*, New York, 1881, 17v., *Chamber's encyclopaedia*, Philadelphia, 1863-1867, 10 v., *The Century dictionary*, New York, 1902, 8 v., *Life of St. Paul*, by F. W. Farrar, New York, 1879, 2 v. Also works of history, biography, and 68 numbers of the *National Geographic Magazine* and *L'Illustration*.
- Clark, William Andrews, Jr. *The Library of William Andrews Clark, Jr.*, Los Angeles. *Sonnets*, by E. B. B. Reading, 1847. Printed in facsimile for William Andrews Clark, Jr., by John Henry Nash of San Francisco, 1927. 12°.
- Sonnets from the Portuguese* by Elizabeth Barrett Browning, with some observations and a bibliographical note, by William Andrews Clark, Jr. The frontispiece by William Wilke done in dry point after a bas-relief by Helen Hall Culver. San Francisco. 1927. Small folio. (No. 55 of 250 copies printed for private distribution.)
- Columbia Phonograph Company, New York. Fifteen portfolios of its "Masterworks" Series of recorded music. For the Allen A. Brown Collection.
- Fry, John Hemming, New York City. *Greek myths and other symbols*. From a group of paintings by John Hemming Fry. With interpretations by Lilian Whiting. Folio, on hand-made wove paper. Tooled pigskin. (Philadelphia, 1927.) (An interpretation of old legends in color half-tones, retouched by the artist.)
- Great Britain. Commissioner of Patents. *Specifications of inventions*. 95 volumes.
- Hall, T. Walter, Sheffield, England. Sheffield, Hallamshire. A descriptive catalogue of Sheffield manorial records, from the eighth

year of Richard II. to the Restoration. 2 v. Compiled and annotated by T. Walter Hall, 1926, 1928.

Yorkshire charters from the Lindsay collection. Translations and notes by T. Walter Hall. Printed for private circulation. Sheffield, 1928.

Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California. The Huntington Papers. The archives of the noble family of Hastings. Parts 1-6. London, 1926. Colored coat-of-arms. Facsimiles of charters.

From Panama to Peru. The Conquest of Peru by the Pizarros, the Rebellion of Gonzalo Pizarro and the Pacification of La Gasca. An epitome of the original signed documents to and from the conquistadors, Francisco, Gonzalo, Pedro, and Hernando Pizarro, Diego de Almagro and Pacificator La Gasca, together with the original signed MS. royal decrees. London, 1925.

Four catalogues of maps of America from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Americana mainly dealing with the Revolution and John W. Waler Catalogue of English Literature. All items in these catalogues form a part of the collection of the Henry E. Huntington Library.

Hispanic Society of America, The President and Trustees of, New York City. Eighteen recent publications of the Society, for addition to the set in the Ticknor collection of Spanish and Portuguese books.

Mather, William G., Cleveland, Ohio. The Mather literature, by Thomas J. Holmes, Librarian of the William Gwinn Mather Library. Privately printed for William Gwinn Mather. Cleveland, 1927.

Pershing, Edgar J., Philadelphia. The Pershing family in America. A collection of historical and genealogical data, family portraits, traditions, legends and military records. Philadelphia, 1924.

Prendergast, Julia C. Fifty-nine volumes of miscellaneous works, chiefly fiction.

University of Michigan, General Library, Ann Arbor. Facsimile of the Washington Manuscript of the Minor Prophets, in the Freer Collection, and the Berlin fragment of Genesis. With an introduction by Henry A. Sanders. (Copy No. 13 of an edition of 400 copies.) In morocco binding. Large folio. Ann Arbor, 1927.

Victor Talking Machine Company, Camden, N. J. Twenty-five portfolios of its "Musical Masterpiece Series of Victor Records". For the Allen A. Brown Collection.

Welles, Misses Frances and Catherine, Minneapolis. Welles and allied families. Genealogical and biographical. Prepared and privately printed for Catherine J. Welles and Frances S. Welles, by the American Historical Society, Inc., New York, 1927. Bound by Stikeman, in full morocco, tooled, with Coats of Arms in color. Folio.



Whitney, Mrs. Mary C., Cleveland, Ohio. Whitney, Wyne and allied families. Genealogical and biographical. Prepared for Mrs. Mary C. Whitney by the American Historical Society. New York. 1928. Portraits, autograph facsimiles. In full morocco.

#### OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Helen Schubarth.

Bates Hall Centre Desk, Newspaper and Patent Department: Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Bindery Department: James W. Kenney, Chief.

Branch Department: Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.\*

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

Catalogue Department: Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

Children's Department: Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

Editor: Zoltán Haraszti.

Engineer and Janitor Department: William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

Genealogy Division: Agnes C. Doyle, Assistant in Charge.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Library Training Class: Bertha V. Hartzell, Supervisor.

Ordering Department: Louis F. Ranlett, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department. Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: George S. Maynard, Chief.

Barton-Ticknor Division, Harriet Swift, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Mary W. Dietrichson, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

\*For Branch Librarians, see below.



## Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.  
 Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.  
 Boylston Station, Pearl B. Smart.  
 Brighton, Katrina M. Sather.  
 Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.  
 City Point, Alice L. Murphy.  
 Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.  
 Dorchester, Marion C. Kingman.  
 East Boston, Laura M. Cross.  
 Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.  
 Fellowes Athenæum, Mary E. Ames.  
 Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.  
 Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.  
 Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.  
 Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald.  
 Mattapan, Ada Aserkoff.  
 Memorial, Beatrice M. Flanagan.  
 Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.  
 Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.  
 Neponset, Margaret I. McGovern.  
 North End, Mary F. Curley.  
 Orient Heights, Catherine F. Flannery.  
 Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.  
 Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.  
 Roxbury Crossing, Edith R. Nickerson.  
 South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.  
 South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.  
 Tyler Street, Lois Clark.  
 Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.  
 West End, Fanny Goldstein.  
 West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.

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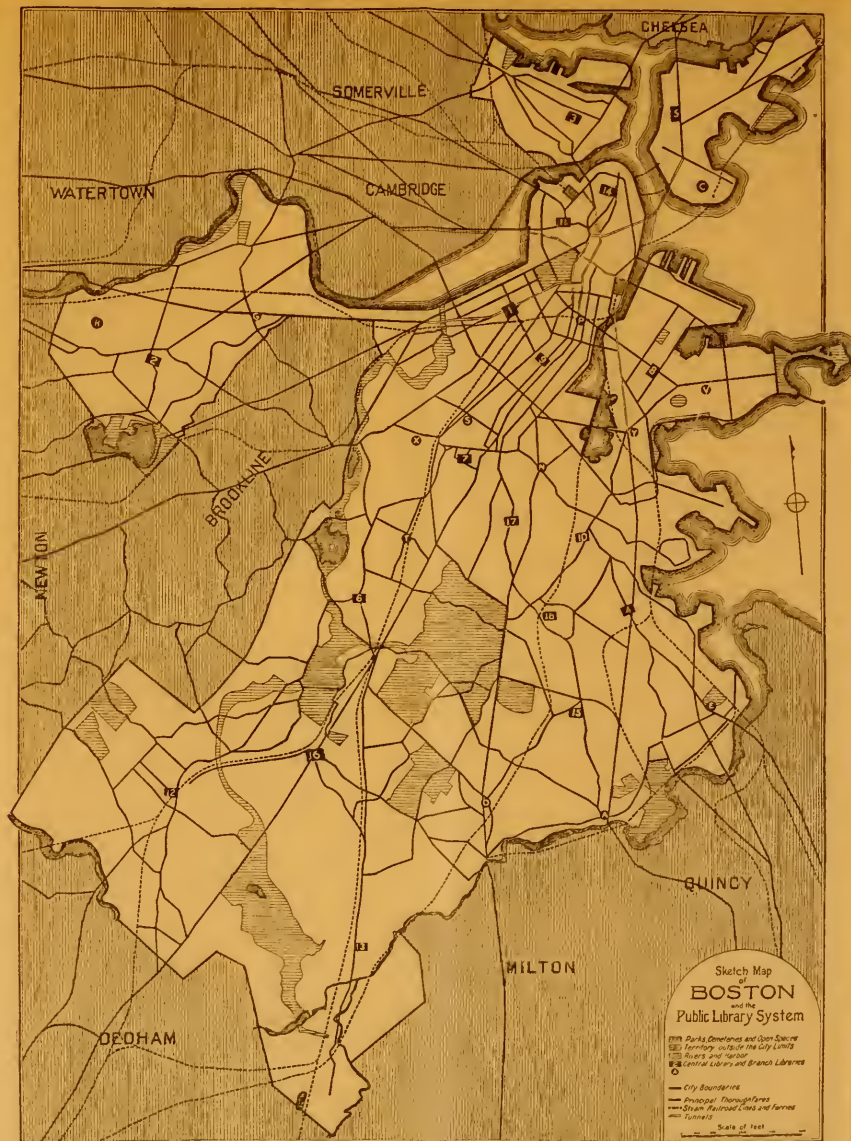
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**Lectures and concerts**, 37, 62, 73-78.  
**Needs of the Library**, 1, 36.  
**Newspaper Room**, 50.  
**North, Gardner O.**, bequest, 4, 40.  
**Open Shelf Room**, 49.  
**Ordering Department**, 40.  
**Patent Room**, 50.  
**Periodical Room**, 51.  
**Printing Department**, 31, 73.  
**Publications**, 47-49.  
**Readers' Adviser**, 37, 62.  
**Registration**, 34, 42.  
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**Special Libraries**, 31, 36, 53.  
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# Central Library, Copley Square. 1

BRANCH LIBRARIES, JANUARY 1, 1929.

<b>CITY PROPER.</b>		
North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	14	
South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St. . . . .	9	
West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St. . . . .	11	
Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	P	
<b>BRIGHTON.</b>		
Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	2	
Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	G	
Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	H	
<b>CHARLESTOWN.</b>		
Charlestown Branch, Monument Square, cor. Monument Ave. . . . .	3	
<b>DORCHESTER.</b>		
Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	4	
Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	15	
Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Road, cor. Bird St. . . . .	10	
Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	A	
Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	D	
Mount Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St. . . . .	18	
Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	E	
<b>EAST BOSTON.</b>		
East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	5	
Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	C	
Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	Z	
<b>HYDE PARK.</b>		
Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	13	
<b>JAMAICA PLAIN.</b>		
Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	6	
Boylston Station Branch, Depot Square . . . . .	T	
<b>ROXBURY.</b>		
Fellows Athenæum Branch, 46 Milmont St. . . . .	7	
Memorial Branch, Townsend, cor. Warren St. . . . .	17	
Mount Pleasant Branch, Dudley, cor. Vine St. . . . .	N	
Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	X	
Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	S	
<b>SOUTH BOSTON.</b>		
South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	8	
Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	Y	
City Point Branch, Broadway, near H St. . . . .	V	
<b>WEST ROXBURY.</b>		
West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St. . . . .	12	
Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St. . . . .	16	



Area of City (Land only) 45.60 Square miles.

Population (Census of 1925). 779,620.







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BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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